SOME NEW FACTS AS TO THE LIFE OF
ST. THOMAS A BECKET
TENDING TO SHOW THAT HE WAS
PROBABLY EARLY EDUCATED
IN, AND CLOSELY CONNECTED
IN MANY WAYS WITH
NORFOLK

BY
WALTER RYE

PRICE SEVEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

NORWICH:
Printed by ROBERTS & Co., TEN BELL LANE
Published by W. H. HUNT, ORFORD HILL
1924
ST. THOMAS A BECKET.

In my recent book of this Saint and his connection with Norfolk (p. 21), I pointed out that I suspected he had a descent from the Norfolk family of de Valoynes (one of whom founded Binham Abbey, in Norfolk), and that of the two daughters of the Theobald de Valoynes (who founded Hickling Priory, in Norfolk), one Maud, married to Hervey Walter, and had a son Theobald Walter, who went to Ireland in 1171, and the other Bertha married to Ranulph de Glanville, who founded Butley Abbey in 1171, and Upton Church, where there was a shrine to the Martyr.

Since the issue of my book, Mr. Orpen, who is the chief authority on the Norfolk family of de Valoynes, has sent me a note saying:

66, CLARENDON ROAD,
NORWICH.

27 Feb 1924

I am very pleased to receive your letter and to know that you have found my book of interest to you. It has been a pleasure to correspond with you on this subject. I am enclosing a photograph of the book in question for your information.

WALTER RYE.

This unlucky error deceived me into stating on p. 80 that the Butler family were descendants from Hubert Fitz Walter instead of from his brother.
ST. THOMAS A BECKET.

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Since the issue of my book, Mr. Orpen, who is the chief authority on the Normans in Ireland, has pointed out to me a fact which I think has escaped the notice of previous writers on the Martyr, viz., that Henry II. also in 1171, which was the year after the Martyrdom, founded an Abbey in Dublin, dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, no doubt in expiation of his death, and that Beatrix Walter, the grand-daughter of the Maud de Valoynes, mentioned above, was an early donor to this Abbey, and so was her uncle-in-law William de Burgh. This is a very strong corroboration of my conjecture and I think should be put on record.

Also, that the register of this Dublin Abbey, shows that a William Aguillon was also a benefactor to it (p. 236), which seems a corroboration of my other conjecture (p. 59), that the families of de Aquila of Suffolk, and Aguillon of Norfolk, were identical, as years ago the late M. A. Lower thought they were.

Another point is that this Dublin Abbey was of the Augustinian Order as were W. Acre, the Hospital of Acon, founded on the Martyr's birthplace in London, Merton Abbey, where he was educated, Butley Priory, Hickling and Campeasse (all three founded by the Valoines), and E. Rudham, where a fair was granted to be held on his Translation day.

I should like to take this opportunity of pointing out a misprint in the sheet pedigree, in which a block referring to Theobald Walter is misplaced, making it to appear that he was the son of Hubert Fitz Walter, the Archbishop, whereas he was really descended from the latter’s brother, another Theobald. Mr. Orpen also informs me that the claims of the Butler family to be descended from the Martyr was not, as I thought, invented by Elizabethan heralds, but was made as early as 1453.

WALTER RYE.

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From the Carrow Psalter, p. 50.
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ILLUSTRATIONS.

Title Page  From the Carrow Psalter (see page 50)

Facing Page 14

Mural Painting, South Burlingham Church, Norfolk

Facing Page 15

Mural Painting, Eaton Church, Norfolk
I may as well frankly admit, at the outset, that my reason for printing the following notes is, to add another important name to our already long list of Norfolk celebrities.

As to my former claims to have settled the position of Hubert de Burgh and to have identified Archbishop Theobald of Canterbury and his brother Walter, bishop of Rochester, as members of the great family of de Valoines of Norfolk—to have shown the high probability, almost certainty that Chaucer was born at Lynn, and that his friend and fellow poet Gower was of a Norwich family, and to have also shown that Spenser is far more likely to have had a Norfolk than a Lancashire origin.

All I can say is that no one has yet contested my arguments or denied my facts, and if I now succeed in satisfying my readers that St. Thomas a Beket comes from the same fold, I shall be well content.

It has become quite a matter of course for minor critics to laugh at my discoveries, for it is easier to do so than to disprove them. My claim, speaking broadly is, that East Anglians were, at and after the Conqueror’s time the motive power of England—that in the Clares, the de Burghs, the Walters (Butlers), and the Valoines they supplied the chief invaders of Ireland and that they dominated the settlement and trade of London. This is a wide claim and I stand to be shot at for making it, but I may remind my readers that Gresham gave London its Royal Exchange years after one Churchman of Norfolk had presented it with its first Custom House (a fact not yet noticed by London East Anglians), while earlier still Peter de Colkirk built the first arched London Bridge.

More, however, of this some day.

As to St. Thomas himself I may point out that he was one of the most complex and one of the most interesting characters in our history.
Not unlike the man who I take to be his countryman, Hubert de Burgh, he was very masterful. Men in his position had to be so in his days to succeed, as in the case of Geoffrey de Mandeville.

He was, however, more than they for he was both a scholar and a business man, a sportsman and a fighter. In early life he was an opportunist. He could be hale fellow-well met and boon companion with the King till he had obtained an ascendancy over him when he tried to bully him.

Of course he became extremely popular for the part he took in curbing the King’s power though his motives were selfish and arose from the desire to exalt the Papal rule in his interests.

Whether he was really martyred in the ordinary sense of the word every one who reads the most careful analysis of the facts of his death set out by Dr. E. A. Abbott in his “Death and Miracles of St. Thomas of Canterbury” (Black, 1898), will have grave doubts.

It certainly seems as though the four knights meant to take him prisoner and insult him, but it is impossible that they would in cold blood have risked his actual murder and the terrible penalties which it entailed.

Far more likely is it that his own defiant violence, he actually came to personal grip with, and threw, one of them and certainly was extremely violent in his language to them, caused them to lose their tempers and kill him, though they may not have originally meant to do so.

That he had personal enemies is notorious, e.g., William de Warenne, as to whom I will deal later.

A summary of my case will be found on p. 21.

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HIS PARENTAGE.

It will of course be necessary to begin with the alleged parentage of the Martyr, while as to his surname I deal in Appendix I.

Gilbert his father we know was a rich merchant of London and an important man, I have little doubt he was of Norman descent and came from Tierceville in Normandy, as has been guessed by others. A knight of that place was the subject of one of his son’s miracles, a fact which has hitherto escaped attention. He was one of the early portreves or portgraves of London. They were, according to Stow (ed., Radford), i., p. 287:

I. (Godfrey or) Geoffrey de Mandeville temp. William I (1066-1087).

II. Hugh de Buck “temp Henry I” (1100-1135). Elsewhere p. 121 Stow names him Buche or Bocland and says he witnessed a charter of William II (1087-1100).

Dr. Round (G. de M., p. 309), says he died several years before 1130 and thinks (p. 353), that he cannot be shown to have been a portreeve.

III. Auberic de Vere, Earl of Oxford (Sheriff in 1125, killed 1147). He was father-in-law of Geoffrey de Mandeville (G. de M., p. 388).

IV. Gilbert Beket, temp Stephen (1135-1154).

V. Peter fil’ Walter temp Henry II. He was Custos (not Sheriff) in 1174-6 (Notes to Stow, ii., p. 280. (Godfrey or) Geoffrey son of William de Mandeville died 1189 (G. de M., p. 240).

His name occurring in such company shows he must have been a man of great importance.

The old tale as to St. Thomas’ mother (variously called Mahalt (or Matilda) and Rohaisia being a Saracen who followed and married Gilbert Becket the Saint’s
father from Acre in Palestine is now apparently abandoned by everyone.

It is perhaps unnecessary to show the impossibility of the whole story but it might be as well to show how absurd it is*.

The Crusades were started in 1095, several prominent Norfolk men joining in the movement including Hubert de Rye the brother of Eudo Dapifer. (Blomefield IV., p. 1, and Register Primus of the P. and C. of Norwich).

Acre was captured by the Crusaders in 1104. Gilbert the Fortreve of London could not have possibly opened trade there till after this date and yet we are asked to believe that he lived there, and returned to London to be followed by his Saracen lover with her two-word vocabulary, discovered, and married him all by 1117 so as to bear him St. Thomas, in 1117-8.

Whether Gilbert was a Lynn moneylender who settled in London is a matter for conjecture only at present. He is said to have founded a chapel in Pardon Churchyard of St Pauls, temp. Stephen (1135-1154), see Stow p. 38.

We know little else of Gilbert except that he or his wife was connected with one Osbern Huit deniers "Master Eightpenny" as he is called by Radford (p. 24).

Neither Radford nor Round attempts to explain why he was so called but I would suggest that it means "Eightpence in the mark" or "20 per cent" and that he to have been an usurer or moneylender. The rate may have been per year or even per month, and his name may well have meant "Old Twenty per cent."

That Gilbert and his son St. Thomas had some connection with some place called Acre is undoubted, and I put forward the suggestion that this was Acre in Norfolk where there was a Priory called Westacre founded before 1101 by Ralph de Tony, by a charter to which Gilbert Blundus1 was the first witness. It is noteworthy that

Another local absurdity in connection with Acre is the tale told of Sir Frederick Tilney, a giant warrior said to have been knighted by Richard I, at the siege of Acon (3, Richard I, 1190), of whom I can find no trace in real history.

1. I would hazard the suggestion that he came from Lynn where usury was carried on strongly before this date.
the family of Blundus was closely connected with London and especially with W. Cheap where St. Thomas was born.

As to the family of Blundus I print some notes in Appendix X. which seem to show their connection, both with Norfolk and with London.

As to the Crusaders they who had reached Jerusalem on the 6th June, 1099 only had the slightest touch with Acre on the 12th id., and there is little probability that anyone from England or Normandy could have traded there between 1099 and 1100 when the siege of Acre took place, or roughly only 18 years before the saint’s birth, in 1118. This picturesque story was no doubt invented by some one who hearing that the saint was connected an Acre jumped to the conclusion it was the foreign Acre, and not the little Monastery of (W) Acre.

Confusion naturally followed. In Archer and Kingsford “Crusades” (1894), p. 183, we are told that an English priest William Chaplain to Ralph de Diceto devoted himself to burying the English dead at Acre in Palestine, and instituted in 1231 the order of St. Thomas of Acre.

Another confusion was started by the late J. G. Nichols who suggested that St. Thomas was born at Acre because the Knights of Acre (the order of St. Thomas), took him as their patron saint, but Robertson rightly points out it was not founded in commemoration of the martyr’s birth but of the capture of Acre.

Whether Thomas was his son by Rohaisia or by Matilda is nowhere specially alleged. If the former it may be that his wife was a de Valoines for it was a favourite name both in the Clare and Valoines families. If so it would account for his receiving patronage from his predecessor and possible kinsman the Archbishop Theobald.

It is strange that in the Calendar of Ancient Petitions the name of Gilbert de Acon occurs several times (Nos. 251, 705, 4452, 5452-4, 8762 and 13,295. These refer to Malton in Yorkshire and a de Vesey inheritance, and would be too late for the Martyr’s father. But singularly enough the P.R.O., now correct the name and reads it Aton, as did the compiler of the Feudal Aids for Lincolnshire, 1356, p. 231 who refers to a Wm. de Aton, but indexes it Acon. I mention this lest some captious critic should think I had overlooked these entries.
As to the strong probability that he was akin to the great family of de Valoines (and so with the Theobald Archbishop of Canterbury and Walter, Bishop of Rochester), my facts will be found in Appendix XI.

This family which has a great deal to do with my arguments as to the connection of St. Thomas with Norfolk was a very masterful and wide spreading one, and deserves a far better history than has been hitherto written of it.

If my conjecture is right (and no one has yet opposed or criticized it), it supplied Theobald the hitherto unnamed and un-identified Archbishop of Canterbury, and his equally un-identified brother Walter the Bishop of Rochester.

And if I am right in my suspicions that Thomas a Becket was connected with the family by female descent or otherwise we have a singular sequence of Archbishops of Canterbury, thus:—

Theobald, 1138.
Thomas a Becket, 1163.
Hubert Walter, 1193.

which looks as though the family practically farmed the Archbishopsric for about half a century.

Far and away the most important connection between the martyr and the de Valoines family is shown thus:

Theobald de Valoines had two daughters.

(1) Berta who married Ralph de Glanville the justiciary, founded Butley Priory in Suffolk and Upton Church in Norfolk (where there was a chantry and an altar to St. Thomas), in 1170-1 the very year of the martyrdom and Theobald de Valoines himself founded Hickling Priory in 1181-2.

(2) Maud, who married Hervey Walter, brother of Hubert Fitz Walter, the Archbishop of Canterbury, founded a Chapel in Acre to St. Thomas.

Gilbert was probably the sub-owner of the site in West Cheap where St. Thomas was born. There can be no reasonable doubt that the chief lord of the spot at the Conquest was Eudo de Rye dapifer whose daughter married William de Mandeville.
His Parentage.

We will now treat with the personal life of the martyr, and see what clues his history gives to a connection with Norfolk.

We know that his youthful friend was Henry Daniel afterwards Abbot of Ramsey the son of Daniel the Abbot of St. Benet’s at Holme in Norfolk, also that two Bishops of Norwich, William Turbus, after 1146, and John of Oxford in 1164 felt so great an interest in him that they took different sides as to his quarrel with the King, the latter writing a book against him† (Blomefields Norfolk, iii., p. 474).

He was educated at Merton Abbey in Surrey which was of Augustinian Order as was the older Abbey of West Acre and St. Olaves’ Priory where the missal showed his Martyr doom. The Prior of Merton in 1409, received quit rent from the house of St. Thomas of Acon.

A friend of Gilbert’s and the patron of the Martyr was a de Aquila or Aguillon who held the fancifully named Honor de L’Aigle. I think I show in Appendix VII, that the names are identical and that the family held land in Norfolk as well as in Sussex, and were connected with the Warrens.

His name occurs in connection with that of Reginald de Warenne the Sheriff who was one of those who conspired against him.

To the list of his associates and servants, besides those noted by former biographers, I may as well add another, though it gives little information and no clue to his life, vis:—

Cecilia, who had been the wife of Roger fil’ Alured, formerly servant of the blessed Thomas the martyr, held land in Otteford which the martyr had granted him by deed (Close Roll, 1229, p. 144).

Oteford is in Kent where St. Thomas had a palace.

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It is greatly to be regretted that Blomefield did not give his authority for these statements, but as it is well known how closely he was in touch with Tanner, the author of the Notitia Monastica who at one time was Chancellor of Norwich, it may well be that he had the information from him and that the records from which they were drawn may have been among those so disastrously lost in transit.
I do not know if any one has noticed that in the Tanner MSS, at the Bodleian there is one thus described on p. 427 of the Calendar (lxxxviii, f. 249). "Prophétia S. Thomas Martyris cum clavi," No. 28. Also a Confirmation by Thomas (commonly called Beket), Archbishop of Canterbury, to the canons of Holy Trinity, London, of the church of St. Mary Bixle (co. Kent), granted to them by William and confirmed to them by Theobald, his predecessors, with grant to them to have ten beasts in his demesne herbage and ten hogs in his wood. (A.D., 1162-1170).

**Latin. Fragment of seal with counter-seal appended, in a bag of gold brocade.**

_Endorsed._—"Sanctus Thomas archiepiscopus, de ecclesia de Bixle." &c.*

The counter-seal, which is unique, shows the impress of an ancient Roman intaglio, with the legend "Sigillum Tomæ Lund." Although the father of this famous archbishop was known as Gilbert Beket, his own usual name was Thomas of London.

That the martyr was born in London there can be no doubt whatever and I have never for a moment suggested anything to the contrary though Dr. Round in his first letter to the "Times," implies that I did so.

When Gilbert and his wife Rohaisia died is not stated. If Matilda was his second wife it would make the date of his daughter Agnes' alleged foundation of the Hospital in 1190 more probable, though as the Saint's other sister was alive in 1179 there is not much difficulty in the matter.

**HIS SISTERS AND OTHER RELATIONS.**

Besides the Martyr himself we know that Gilbert by one or other of his wives (if he had two) had other children, *vis*:

1. Rohaisia possibly so named after his wife of the same name which was a favourite christian name with both the Clares and the de Valoines. She has been said to have also married—Philpot, but I can find no

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corroboration of this and the name of Philpot does not appear in London History till much later. She was alive in 1175 when she received a pension jointly with her son John "Becket," nephew of the Saint., VII, pp. 397-445*.

2. Mary Beckett who in 1179 was made Abbess of Barking, a post afterwards filled by Christiana de Valoines in 1214.

3. Agnes Beckett who founded the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon in W. Cheap, about 1190, and who also gave rents in the parish of Colman Church to Clerkenwell Priory about 1198, on which date one of the witnesses a Norfolk knight Robert de Pinkeny was alive.

There is however this possibility that this Agnes was a sister-in-law, not uterine sister, of St. Thomas, and was the Agnes, daughter of Robert de Valoines part founder of Campesse Nunnery in 1195. If so the connection I suggest with the de Valoines would be clear enough. Sisters-in-law were often called sister in this way.

Besides these three sisters of the martyr, possibly there was yet another whose name has not survived.

The martyr was uncle to:

(1). John "Becket" nephew of the Saint (vii., pp. 397-445), by his sister Rohaisia (see ante).
He was a party to a fine in Essex whereby he benefited from William de Crammavill, and Lucy his wife, in Stifford and Turrock.

I have collected all I can find about the Crammavills, and printed it in Appendix VII., and I hope the result will be useful to anyone who cares to carry out the investigation further.

They seem to have been of a family settled in Essex, and one of the Rogers, acted with Theobald de Valoines, as attorney for Gilbert Peche, so I apprehend this is still another link between the Saint and the Valoines family.

He was also uncle (by which of his sisters is unknown), to

(2). Geoffrey, a poor but diligent scholar (Rolls Life, i., pp. 397-485), who was quartered on the Archbishop of Syracuse.

*She is said to have granted Coleman Church to the Nuns of Clerkenwell (Cott., MS., Faustina, Blomefield, ii., p. 72).
(3). Gilbert, who was under the patronage of the Chancellor in Sicily (id., 248), and of the Bishop of Chartres (id., vi., p. 481d).

(4). Another (?) not named who was recommended to the Dean of Rheims (id., vi., p. 455).

So far for his admitted relations.

THE HORSEA OR "BAD CLERK" CONNECTION.

I will now further point out that it was a Hugh de Horsea the "bad clerk" who gave the martyr his coup de grace in 1170 by barbarously stirring up his brains when his brain pan was cut off, and that he must have come from Horsey in Norfolk, the next parish to Hickling, for there is no other place of the name in England.

Whether this points to some complicity of Theobald de Valaines of Hickling in the murder, and was one of the reasons for the foundation of Hickling twelve years later one cannot say, but it seems very likely.

I can find little if any one of the name of de Horsey except that in 1200 Philip de Horsi was pledge for the Comes de Insula (Rot. Fin., p. 274), that in 13 John (1211-2), Peter Bardolf owned the Church there by the right of Godwin de Horsey, and that Adam de Horsey was his son and heir, and had given it to Hickling Priory, and that latter Thomas, son and heir of Philip de Horsey was living in 1250 (Norris’ Happing, p. 10) also that Hugh son of Eudo de Horsey gave part of his tithes in Horsey to St. Benet’s at Holm. Unluckily, the last gift is undated so we cannot judge if this Hugh was the "bad clerk" Hugh.

Other connections with the de Valaines family are shown by the fact that Walter Maucclerc, who seems to have been a priest at St. Alban’s was sent to Ireland in 1210, where he was in service in 1212 (Pat., 14 John, p. 95) was made Bishop of Carlisle in 1223, where there was an order to Theobald de Valaines as to the custody of that see (p. 573). The connection of this Walter with Norfolk is shown by the fact that 1212 (p. 93) where out of a grant of Galfridus de Munhancy, parson of Catfield,
he had a grant of half the perpetual vicarage of Catfield, vacant through the Abbey of St. Benet's at Holme being vacant. He died 1248 (D.N.B.)

The name of Mauclerc remained in Norfolk till 1409 (see Blomefield, x., p. 192).

THE CULT OF THE MARTYR IN NORFOLK.

Then we have the solid fact that the cult of St. Thomas the Martyr flourished stronger in Norfolk than anywhere else. (Appendix IV). It is very noticeable that it began earlier in Norfolk than in any other county. Upton Church was founded by Ralph de Glanville in the very year of his martyrdom and the Wymondham Guild in his honour in 1187, both before the foundation of the London Hospital in 1190.

That the numbers of Churches, Chapels, Altars, Shrines, wall paintings depicting his martyrdom, and guilds dedicated to him is out of all proportion larger in Norfolk than in any other English County, notably at West Acre and at Lynn the nearest seaport town, and where there were six, in one of which one of the brethren was to make a yearly pilgrimage to Canterbury.

Appendixes IV, shows that besides the Priories a Hospital in Beck, founded by one William de Beck (Blomefield, vi., p. 767), of Broomhill in Weeting temp. John by Sir Hugh de Flaiz (Blomefield, ii., p. 163), and the Churches at Thorpland and Upton, there were Chapels dedicated to him at Custhorpe, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Mousehold Heath, Norwich (3), Shipdham, Spixworth, Walsingham, Westacre, Wymondham and Yarmouth, and a very great number of Altars, Shrines, Lights and Guilds in his honour, which are set out in Appendix V.

St. Gregory’s Church, Norwich, which belonged to the Valoines family had both a chapel and window to him. (Blomefield iv., p. 273).

The excellent list of Mural and other Painted Decorations, by C. E. Keyser issued by the South Kensington Museum (3rd edition, 1883), on p. 399, gives 45 references to St. Thomas for all England of which fourteen or nearly one third are in Norfolk, and of these eight only
depict his martyrdom. Half these eight, vis., Burlingham, Burgh St. Peter, Eaton, and Hingham are in Norfolk Churches. The best and earliest pictorial records of his martyrdom is in the 13th Century Carrow Psalter* which came from St. Olaves Priory, founded by Peter Fitz Osbert, about 1216, and endowed with Norfolk property. His niece married a man from Sall, where there was a Chapel, and an image to Martyr.

The occurrences of St. Thomas Becket therefore in our Churches are entirely and utterly out of proportion to those in the rest of England and show an extreme and personal interest in him.

His connection with the County is shown in many other ways, a silver cup once belonging to him was once in the possession of Sir Miles Stapleton, of Ingham. Probably this is his grace cup now at Corby Castle left by Edward Howard the Admiral to the Queen in 1513 (House of Howard (i., p. 94).

If we compare these with the comparatively few a London itself where besides the Great Hospital in West Cheap, there seem only to have been a Chantry to his honour on London Bridge (Stow, i., p. 679, ii., p. 75, 79, 364, the Charity Hospital, at Southwark now the great St. Thomas Hospital, and a spring or well dedicated to him called St. Thomas of Watering (Stow, ii, p. 349). A Chapel founded in St. Paul’s Churchyard, before 1421 (Hustings Wills, ii., p. 4684).

The sword with which he was killed “as it was said” was in the vestry of the Temple Church in London (so closely connected with the de Mandevilles) in 1307, see Inventory printed in the N. & N.A.S., Trans. V., p. 91.

CONNECTION OF THE LONDON HOSPITAL BUILT ON HIS BIRTH PLACE WITH NORFOLK.

I now come to that part of my case which depends on the extraordinary support that the Hospital in Cheapside, which was founded in his honour received from resident Norfolk merchants who flourished in London for a century and a half.

No less than seven London citizens coming from various Norfolk places, vis: Frowick in Attleburgh, Norwich, Cawston, Worstead, Berney, Hellesdon and Stokesby occur in the history of the Hospital.

*See frontispiece.
MURAL PAINTING, SOUTH BURLINGHAM CHURCH, NORFOLK.
1328. Sir Richer de Reefham, Mayor of London, lived on the site,

(1) Peter de Frowyk, of Attleburgh, temp. Henry III, held the chief part of the site and paid a rent to the Canons of Merton (where the Martyr was educated). (Inq., p.m., Henry III), and the Martyr is said to have been commemorated in Attleburgh Church.

(2). Thomas de Norwich, in 1329-30, endowed Chantries in the Churches of St. Thomas of Acon, and of St. Mary of Colcherch.

(3). Alice de Brandon in 1340, endowed a Chantry in the Church of St. Thomas of Acon.

(4). Robert de Elsing in 1350 gave a legacy to the “work” of St. Thomas of Acon.

(5). Richard de Cawston in 1364, gave to the Church of St. Thomas of Acon.

(6). John de Worstead in 1368, gave to the Church of St. Thomas of Acon.

(7). Thomas Burgh in 1379 to be buried in the Close of the Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr.

(8.) Walter de Berney, citizen of London and of Hellesdon by Norwich in his Will 1382, gives 100/ to the fabric of the Church of St. Thomas Acon, and 20/ to the Shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury there.

He gives to the poor of Hellesdon and leaves a legacy to John de Hellesdon, just mentioned.

He also gave to the Priors and Convents of Westacre, Norwich, Wymondham, Binham, Coxford, Shouldham and Langley, also to Runhall which last belonged to West Acre Priory. At nearly all of these places were chapels, shrines, &c., to St. Thomas the Martyr.

(9). John de Hellesdon of Hellesdon and London by his Will dated 1384, who mentioned his W. Cheap property, and who I take it was Berney’s London agent, also mentions Richard de Tasburgh and endowed a chantry at Hellesdon for the souls of i.a., Walter de Berney.
(10). Juliana de Stokesby in 1348 gave to the house of St. Thomas of Acon.

All the above will be found in the Hustings Wills but in 9 and 10, I have been able to add further details from the two Wills, also proved in Norwich.

Another connection with Norfolk is through the Lynn family of Constantyn who settled in London, of this is:

1331-2. Richard Costantyn, draper, left his son Richard his messuage called Brantesfeld, sold with four shops towards West Cheap. (Hustings Wills, i. p. 374), and such son.

1342. Richard Costantyn left a goblet enamelled at the bottom one enamel being of St. Thomas the Martyr (id., p. 482).

The site of the Hospital certainly belonged to the Mandeville family and probably came to them by marrying the heiress of Eudo dapifer, though they owned adjoining in their own rights. The Mandevilles gave the whole block cornering on Ironmonger Lane to Shouldham Priory in Norfolk, and as late as 1333 Johanna de Mandeville endowed land in London for a Chantry for the souls of herself and her relations at the altar of St. Thomas the Martyr in the Monastery of Waltham Cross (Hustings Wills, i., pp. 385-559).

**HIS LOCAL MIRACLES.**

Following this we find that many of his Miracles were connected with Norfolk (Appendix iii).

And again that the number of the miracles attributed to him in Norfolk is out of all proportion to other counties.

In Appendix iii, for which I am indebted to Mr. Mr. G. R. Potter I append details of these local miracles.
His Parentage.

No doubt many of the subjects could be identified but the chief point of interest is that one of them may point to some connection of the martyr's father with Lynn, as Mr. Potter suggests. Constance relation of Robert Fitz Gilbert and her daughter Constance do not appear on the pedigree in "Feudal England," p. 473: Richard Wiseman of the family of the Countess Rohesia, can not refer to Rohesia daughter of Walter Giffard, whose daughter married Eudo for the last named died 1121.

It is important to note that a William de Tierceville, nephew of Arnold Theobald al's de Tierceville, was cured for this strengthens my claim that Archbishop Theobald was a de Valoines, whose family are said to have come from that place. (See Appendix X.)

i., p. 242. A blind woman of Happisburgh (Norfolk) cured

i., p. 632. Ascelina of Wiggenhall (?) wife of Maurice de Wigenal cured of a paralytic affection in her face and her husband recovers the sight of an eye.

II., p. 216. Warin "Cognomine Grosso" (Le Gros?) a knight of Norfolk cured of a swelling in his arm.

II., p. 114. Guncelinus a monk of Norwich the like.

ii., p. 215. Ivo of Lynn, and others saved from a tempest.

I., p. 190, and ii., p. 234. Cecilia dau of Jordan of Plumstead in Norf. restored to life after supposed to have died of cancer. Jordan in early life had served Thomas Beket, at Croydon (?) under Archbishop Theobald.

I., p. 245. Randulf, priest of Ingworth, cured of diabetes.

I., p. 423. Richard, a Pungento Cardus (cognominatus?). Punchard.

II., p. 137. Richard, Sapiens who held of Countess Rohaise (sister of Alberic de Vere, Earl of Oxford), who Geoffrey de Mandeville and Payne de Beauchamp, said was cured.

I., p. 408. William, nephew of Arnold Theobald, al's de Tierceville was cured.
HIS CONNECTION WITH WESTACRE PRIORY.

The probable connexion of West Acre Priory with St. Thomas a Beket may be shortly put thus. There were seven points which help to show it, viz.,

(1 and 2) There was a chapel belonging to the Priory specially dedicated to him in West Acre Field (Bl., IX., p. 166), and there was a guild dedicated to him here in the church.

(3) An altar specially dedicated to him was in the church,

(4) A pilgrimage to such altar of St. Thomas at West Acre was directed by a testator (see Reg. Rex, Norwich, p. 373, which is also quoted by Blomefield, (p. 160).

(5) In 1479 the Priory and convent had granted an annual fair to be held on the translation of St. Thomas the Martyr.

(6) Amongst the possessions of the Priory were lands in South Lynn where there was an altar to him (Tanner MSS. ii., p. 272.)

(7) The Priory also held land in Oxburgh, and his image occurs on the screen there.

(8) At Lynn, which is the nearest seaport to West Acre (where the Priory held land), there were no less than six guilds dedicated to him, one of which had been begun by six pilgrims from Lynn who had hitherto sustained a wax candle on the Church of Canterbury, and one of the brethren of which were to visit Canterbury and satisfy the keeper of the light. Details of all these will be found in my "Recreations," vol. ii., pp. 57-8.

There is no other place, city, town, or village in England where there are so many guilds to his memory, indeed I do not know any other place where they had more than one.
Apart from the facts set out above it is clear that either Blomefield or his continuator had some inkling of the Martyr’s connexion with West Acre, for at IX, p. 164, he or they conjecture that the Seal of the Friary represents him.

Unluckily, he gives no reason for his conjecture. Possibly the idea crossed his mind that the crown on his head on the seal represented the Martyr’s crown, but I cannot see any corroboration of the idea, and the legend of the seal seems to have no bearing on St. Thomas, and the way the hair is confined by a fillet seems to me rather as though it was a classical seal altered.

Still the fact remains that either Blomefield or his continuator must have had the idea of some connection of St. Thomas with West Acre, and we can only take this for what it is worth. Possibly they founded such idea on something Tanner had said, but this I cannot trace.

What the connexion of the Martyrs family with West Acre was must, of course, remain conjecture.

If Hubert the Prior of West Acre, “about 1210,” could be identified with Hubert Walter Archbishop of Canterbury in 1193, who seems to have been a near relative of St. Thomas a Becket, the whole mystery would be solved. Hubert Walter himself founded the Abbey of West Dereham, and there too was an altar to the saint.

A minor fact which may point out to some connexion of the Saint in early life with West Acre is that both this Priory and Ixworth and Merton, where he was undoubtedly educated, were on Augustinian foundations.

Another curious thing—it can hardly be a co-incidence—is that the first witness to the deed endowing West Acre Priory was one Gislebert Blundus, and that there was a family of that name resident in London within a stone’s throw of St. Thomas’ birthplace.

I have dealt with this name in Appendix* but may point out here that the history of the family of Blund, Blound, Blount or Blunt, which are often assumed to have been identical is one of the most confused of English pedigrees. Whether it means “blundus” from some

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*See Appendix X. In my first hasty letter, I made the inaccurate statement that he was the first witness to the foundation Charter of the Cheapside Hospital, a statement I now withdraw before Dr. Round discovers it.
great blond beast so called from his complexion, or from his blunt and peremptory manners is a difficult point to begin with and it is further complicated from the fact that it is often borne by Jews, as well as Christians in one case, on the very spot in the Jewry of London next St. Thomas undoubted birthplace.

Much of the matter I have printed above and in the following appendixes is new to former biographies of the Martyr, and may be of use to future investigators, and I submit that I have practically made out my contention that he was intimately connected with Norfolk, though not actually born in the county.
SUMMARY.

The whole subject is a very tangled one but I may summarize my reasons for thinking that Beckett had an early and close connection with Norfolk. The name is still more common in Norfolk than in any other English County. He was the playmate and opponent of two Bishops of Norwich (p. 9). If I am right in thinking that the Aiguillons of Norfolk were identical with the family of de l'Aigle (p. 60), he was also a playmate of a Norfolk family.

He was an enemy of Reginald de Warren, grandson of the William de Warren who founded Castle Acre in Norfolk (p. 58), see Appendix VI.

The Monastery of West Acre could not have taken its name from Acre in Palestine for it existed before the latter place appear in history (p. 18). It was an Augustinian foundation. So was the Hospital of Acon founded on his birthplace in London. So was Merton Abbey where he was educated, and so also were the Priory of Butley in Suffolk and the Church of Upton in Norfolk, founded by Glanville the year after the martyrdom (1171).

So were Hickling (1185), Campesse (before 1195), both founded by the Valoines, the mysterious family which continually appears in this enquiry, and from which I suspect he had a descent.

When he was martyred the coup de grace was given him in 1170 by one Hugh de Horsey, the bad clerk (p. 12), who said have come from Horsey, the next parish to Hickling.

Whether these three foundations is soon after the martyrdom were acts of compunction by the Valoines for a possible share in the martyrdom, I must leave.

I now come to the extraordinary and early cult of the martyr in Norfolk, details of which will be found (pp. 13-14), specially drawing attention to the fact that the earliest Guild to his honour in England was that at Wymondham, founded in 1187.

The number of Norfolk Guilds, too, was far greater in Norfolk than in any other County.

So were the mural and other pictures of his martyrdom, and so were the churches, chapels, etc., in his honour (pp. 13-14).
After his death the Miracles ascribed to him show a very large proportion occurring in Norfolk (p. 16), and it is strange to note that among them are several connected with the great family of Clare.

As to the great cult of the martyr in Norfolk it can only be accounted for by the fact that he must have been known to be specially connected with it. He was certainly a Londoner by birth; and yet we find an immediate recognition of him in Norfolk far earlier even than in London.

The suspicion which I had at first that his sister's marriage with Thomas, son of Theobald de Helles identified such man with a Thomas son of Theobald de Hellesdon who I thought might turn out to be a Valoines, I cannot materialize. In fact, it would seem that there was a family called de Helles in the Southern part of England (p. 52). The theory, however, drew my attention to the fact that Hellesdon had a very close connection with the Martyr and his London birth place which I have set out in Appendix XI., and I do not despair that further investigation will show that there is more in my first views than I can now prove. Anyhow I have printed all I could find about the families connected with the village, and I hope at all events that they may be useful to future students.

WALTER RYE.
APPENDIX I.

THE SURNAME OF BECKET.

Various guesses as to the meaning and origin of the name now worthyly borne by Joe Beckett, our heavy-weight pugilist*, and lately by the Gilbert of “Punch,” and Sir William à Becket, chief justice of Victoria. It is still very common in Norfolk—more so than in any other English county†.

Radford (p. 30) states that Roger de Pont l’Eveque fastened the epithet Baille-hache on him as a derisive nick name, “clericus Baille-hache,” the clerk with a hatchet, upon Thomas himself, but I cannot see how “Baille-hache” can have been changed or corrupted into “Becket.”

Robertson (id. p. 2-3) says that Becket was a Norman surname, and quotes the Rot. Scacc: Norman (p. cxvii) for 1180) as his authority, and states “Manzer de Beckett” occurs there. This is a stupid double error for the actual name there is “Mauger Bechet” not Manzer and there is no “de.”

However, he is probably right in thinking the surname is Norman and it “came over to England with the Conqueror” and may have arisen from the Abbey of Bec. The Saint’s nephew John Becket was in Essex in 1201.

Alternatively it has been suggested that à Becket was _prima facie_ one who lives by the side of a little beck or becket, if we disregard altogether the possibility that it had some connection with the great Abbey of Bec but it is hardly likely to mean “at Bec” from the Priory. This may be, for in a Norfolk fine 1303 No. 947, a John Attebek of Lyng was petent against Roger atte back in Lyng, Emma dau: of William fil’ Roger Bek putting in a claim, but from the fact that later on in 1343, p. 337, a Robert attebek was of Woodnorton, I am inclined to think these men took their surnames from the Hospital of Bec named after the Saint.

It has been a common name in Norfolk from early times, viz: in 1286 Hervey Beket was of Knapton, in 1397 John Beket was Prior of Weybridge Priory at Acle, in 1422 Thomas Beket was rector of Felthorpe, and Rose Beket of Dickleburgh, will 1504.

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*Born, 4th April, 1894, at Wickham, Southampton.
†Three of this name were killed from Norwich alone in the late War.
I will now print some references to the name in order of date.


1175 (?). Alan Beket witness [late 12th Cent.] to deed of Giles de Gonsle to Peter and Symon his sons of lands in Faldingworth, co. Lincs. Harl., 50, I, 4.

1199—1216. Quit claim by Petronilla, wife of Reginald Furre to Bulington Priory, of a tenement which William Bechet gave his fee in Faldingword, co., Lincs. [temp. John].

In 1175—6 Robert Beket was a fugitive in Berks (Pipe Roll, p. 135).

Ante 1200 William Bec was presented to Wood Dalling, Norfolk (Blomefield, viii., p. 323).


In 1202 William Beket was plaintiff in a suit against Alan son of Rolf of Croxby, Lincoln (Feet of Fines No. 107).

1207. Enquiry as to whether Herbert de Upton uncle of William Beket was seized of a hide in Upton
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(Gloucester ?) when he died which John de Kenolvill held.

They return was that he was so seized that William was his next heir but that Herbert had a son and a daughter, and that his son Gilbert held for his life, and his daughter Beneclina who had an assize against Herbert Archdeacon of Kent, then the parson of Upton. (Abb. Plac., p. 60).

1229. Ingenchuyna who was the wife of David Beket who had held a carucate in Kilmor Capel (Ireland), (Close Roll, p. 263).

1230. Peter Becket a nuncio bringing letters to England, id., p. 431.

1230. Walter Beket, merchant of Cambrai, arrived Boston, id., p. 358.

1251 Peter Beket brought an action against Thomas Burton as to a free warren in Burton St. Leonard, York, Abb., p. 201.


1282. John de Nevile, Lincoln and in Wythebel, 2 bovates of land held by John Beket, of Wythebel, and Philip de Kyma, who held of John de Nevile, and he of the King.

1292. Christana Beket said to be killed by Walter le Pestur, of Evesham (Inq., p. m. 21, Ed., I., No. 158).

1296 Nigel Beket, alias Becke, apparently of Southampton, whose son Nigel was his next heir, aged 18 (Inq., p. m., 54 Hy. III., No. 3, in 1269.)


1310. Will. Beket, witness at Stanton, Edward II [1310] to deed of same, granting to Roger Kebbe, a messuage in Marksbury, co. Somerset.


1344. Walter Beket, Chancey, Miss., Inq., p. 479.


1369. Grant from Stephen Le Wycchere of Warnham, co. Sussex, to Wm. atte Bechette, of Warnham, of land there, at Warnham. Add., 18660.


n.d. B. 3304 Nicholas de Beket, warden, Southampton.

1374 B 3174 John Beket lived in Somerset.


1385 John Beket, of Farnborough and his wife Matilda were parties to a fine in Southwark (Surrey Fines 8—9 Richard II, No. 72)


1307. John Beket, Prior of Weybridge, by Acle, Norf. (Blomefield, xi., p. 9).


1399—1413. Grant from William Bechet of Warnham of same to Richard (?) [Henry IV], fragm of seal. Add., 18661.

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1408. Will of Radegunda Becket domina de Mortimer citizen and free woman of the City of London to be buried in the Preachers Friars at Dunstable (Hustings Wills, ii., p. 381).


1405. John Beket, witness, 6, Henry IV [1405], to deed of Thomas Lentwardyn and others to Walter Rodeney, and others, of the manor of Severswick, co. Somerset. Harl., 53, A. 9.


1422. Thomas Beket, rector of Felthorpe, Norfolk (Blomefield, x., p. 415.)


1440. John Beket was a citizen and stock fishmonger in Woolwich (Ancient Deeds, A. 4908).

1461. David Beket was of Flumstead, Erith (Ancient Deeds A. 4934).

1504 Rose Beket was of Dickeburgh (Bl., i, p. 200).


1527. Acquittance from Thomas Beckett of Stonestreet, Ockley, Surrey, late of Warnham, Sussex, yeoman to Thomas Hayne for land in Warnham, at Stanestrete. Add., 18811.


1586. Ansell Beket, haberdasher of London, was dead (Ancient Deed, A. 12940.)

He is possibly the same as the Anselm Beket who had to do with a chantry at St. Olaves, Colèman Street, (Stow p. 292a.)


1749. Lease from Peter Wallhall to Robert Perrin, with consent of Dorothy Beckett under will of Robert Beckett. Add., 43874.

From the above it would seem that the Martyr’s family probably came from the South of England, and that his connection with Norfolk may have been from his father having had to do in some early business capacity with the Augustinian Priories of West Acre.
APPENDIX II.

THE HOSPITAL OF ST. THOMAS ACON IN WEST CHEAP, LONDON AND ITS SITE.

It may be as well if I collect here, I think for the first time, all the early references to the London site.

A charter of Eudo de Rye, dapifer, who died 1120, but probably before 1100 of uncertain date Round (in his Early Charters of St. John’s Abbey, Colchester, English Historical Review, XVI, October 1901), doubts its authenticity, and thinks it must be 1104 or earlier. (id., p. 723).

Then Mr. Stuart-Moore, who edited the cartulary for the Roxburgh Club in 1897, considers the date was 1119.

Whatever the date may be the foundation Charter is set out in Dugdale (vi., p. 602) and purports to give to the Abbey of Colchester the Church of St. Mary of Wescaping, London, which is called Niewchurch with the consent of Ailward Grossus, the priest who held it from the grant of his “antecessor,” Hubert de Ria, and who afterwards voluntarily renounced the pension of the Church of St. John “de eadem ecclesia factus,” i.e., created out of such Church of St. Mary.

It would seem that the Abbey of Westminster early claimed to have obtained the Church of St. Mary Newchurch by the gift of this Ailwardus.

This is said to have been shown by three confirmations (1085-7), referred to in Mr. Davis “Regesta,” Nos. 278, 306 and 454.

Mr. Davis, as to the first (No. 278), quotes it from copies in Westminster Abbey Domesday fol. 529 Cottonion MS., Faustina, A 1111 fol. 64, and though he expresses no opinion as to its genuineness points out that it has, with one omission the same list of witnesses as a forged charter of 1080-5, by which William I is supposed to have re-granted to St. Peter of Westminster all lands granted them by Edward the Confessor (Davis, No. 216, p. 50).

Whether the Abbot of Colchester or the Abbot of Westminster was right, and which of them bolstered up his claim by forged documents remains an open question.
It may be that Ailward gave or meant to give only his life interest to Westminster and that Eudo gave the reversion to Colchester.

Early it would seem that Colchester prevailed, for in 1189 Richard the First confirms, i.e., Eudo’s grant to Colchester of:

(a). 14 acres of land belonging to the Church of St. Helen which I take to be St. Helen’s Bishopsgate near Blanch Appleton (Stow, i., p. 132). There was a Priory here founded before about 1212 by which Alard the Dean and Chapter of St. Pauls made a grant to William, son of William the Goldsmith, to establish nuns of St. Helen’s (Stow, ii., p. 299).

(b). The Church of St. Mary of Newchurch, London, with a market and 6 acres of land which were of Alveva, the widow, and half the manse.

1198. This Charter was also referred to and confirmed† (Charter Rolls, i., pp. 426).

It is very probable that St. Mary Newchurch was the parent church and that out of it were carved:

St. Mary Colchurch.

St. Mary Wolchurch and which remained in the gift of Colchester till the Reformation (Astell Nash).

If we add the 14 acres belonging to St. Helen’s to the 6 belonging to St. Mary New Church, we get 20 acres, as the alleged holding of Eudo.

“When the City of Acars or Acon in the Holy Land” (called also Ptolemais) was besieged by the Christians, one William, an Englishman by nation, being chaplain to Radulfus de Diceto, Dean of London, when he went to Jerusalem bound himself by a vow that if he should prosperously enter Acon he would build a Chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr at his own charge, etc. This would be after 1170.

(“Decem Scriptores” quoted in Maitland’s “History of London,“ ii., p. 886, and requoted by Watney, p. 1.)

1190. Richard I, on his expedition to the Holy Land was saved from shipwreck, by the apparition of St. Thomas.

It is noteworthy that the same charter refers (p. 424), and Robert de Sakeville holding the manor of Wycham in Suffolk, his daughter married Ralph de Glanville.
1190. Alleged foundation of the London house by Thomas fil Theobald de Helles and Agnes his wife, sister of the martyr (Watney, p. 3).

1191. Some Citizens of London who were with Richard I, founded a Hospital there. (Matthew Paris, p. 437, quoted by Watney, p. 2).

1207. King John notifies that he had taken under his protection a messenger of the house of St. Thomas of Acon coming to petition for alms for the redemption of the captives of the land of Jerusalem. (Patent Rolls, ed. by Hardy, p. 76).

Before 1212, Geoffrey Fitz Piers, Earl of Essex (who founded Shouldham Friary, Norfolk before 1201) who died 1212, and who had married Beatrix daughter, and sole heiress of William de Say, and his wife Beatrix, daughter of William and sister to Geoffrey Mandeville gave to the Priory 12 shops, and rooms over in the parish of St. Mary, Colechurch, London, “ex oppositio sopar” between the lane, between such shops and the Church of Colechurch on the West, and a lane between the shops, and a Chapel of the Blessed Mary of Coneyhope on the East.

This deed was witnessed by Geoffrey de (? le) Boteler dean of the Church of St. Martin, William de (? le) le Boteler, Henry de Say, John de Cauz, Ralph Claondon, and others, (Blomefield Norf., vii., p. 418), from a deed in the collection of Sir Thomas Hare, Bart.*


1213-6 Geoffrey “de Mandeville” Fitz Piers, Earl of Essex and Gloucester who had married Beatrix de Say, niece of the great Geoffrey de Mandeville by Ancient Charter, A. 1988, granted to Gilbert de Waletun, for 20 marks land with buildings in the parish of St. Mary,

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*I am trying to get access to the original, and if successful will add a copy.

“Crineghop” may be Blomefield’s error for Coneyhope (see Stow, ii., p. 331).
Colecherche at the corner of the little street called "Ysmongeres Lane," paying him yearly a tiercel, or 4
besants, and to the Monks of St. Alban's 7/-, and of Holy
Trinity, Canterbury, 11/- as chief lords of the fee.
Witnesses William de Mandeville, Hugh de Biblesworth,
their steward Ralph Cheinduit, Serlo then Mayor of
London, and others.

This property was afterwards by Ancient Deed
13420 released by Bonevie son of Samuel Muton to
Alexander de Dorset where it is described as in the house
in the market of Westcheap formerly of the grantees
grandfather Abraham, son of Rabi which Gilbert de
Walton held by the gift of Geoffrey, son and heir of
Geoffrey fil Peter, Earl of Essex.

This deed is witnessed by Serlo, the Mayor of London
and others.

Also see in 1303, A 7373.

Soon after 1214 (Index to British Museum
Charters., dates it 1214—5). Abraham, son of Muriel
sold to Geoffrey "de Mandeville," Earl of Essex and
Gloucester all his right in the house which was of
Abraham son of Raby in the market of West Cheap,
which house is between the house of John Wallensis, and
Ysmongere Lane in the parish of St. Mary de Colechurch,
and abuts towards the North part in length to land
which is of the fee of Hugh de Neville which Peter de Ely
holds.

Saving to the Monks of the Holy Trinity of Cantery-
bury, 11/- yearly at Christmas, and 7/- to the Monks of
St. Albans at St. John Baptist's Nativity. For this Earl
Geoffrey pays 35 marks of silver. Witnesses Serlo
Mercer then Mayor of London (Mayor, 1214, 1217, 1219,
1220 and 1224).

Ralph Eswi, Alderman de Mercato.
(Ralph Ashby was Sheriff in 1234 and 1239, Mayor
1241 and 1243).

Constantine fil' Alulf.
William le Norres.
Thurbern de Nasing.
Peteer le Cunter.
Waltor de Warlingevill.
Stephen Aurifaber.
Ferminus Aurifaber.
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Ralph fil’ Stephen Eswy (Ashby).
William de Mandevill.
Miles de Sumery.
Ernulf de Mandevill.
William de Hebrig.
William de Stokes.
John de Matham.
Brian de Mara.
Thomas de Ango.
Galfridus de Jarpunvill.
Thomas Pirun.
Magister Ursell.
Gareye fil’ Sanson.
Mosse fil’ Jac’ and many others.

This charter is now Harl. Chart 42, A. 56, and is no doubt a duplicate of that noted by the late M. D. Davis in his Hebrew Deeds, on pp. 352-3, before 1290 (1888) who describes it as No. 191, but omits the names of the witnesses given above, and so did not give the information necessary to find the approximate date.

n.d. Gilbert Marshall, Earl of Pembroke granted lands in Kilkenny in Ireland to the Knights and brethren of the house of St. Thomas the Martyr of Acon, and to the house of St. John the Baptist of Kilkenny. (This was confirmed by Edward I. in 1287 Watney, p. 7).

Post 1216. Henry III gave a messuage and the place between the Church of St. Olave and the tenements where St. Thomas was born in pure alms.

Peter son of William fil’ Allulf by Dame Alice granted to William the Jew, son of Reginald de Berkhamsted a chamber and celler under a stone house.

1227 (?). Thomas, son of Theobald de Helles, grants to the master and brethren of the Hospital of the Knights of St. Thomas the Martyr of Canterbury of Acon a parcel of land where the martyr was born in St. Mary de Colechurch formerly belonging to Gilbert Beket, father of the Martyr, for the purpose of erecting a “basilica” to the honour of the most glorious martyr between the land which was of Thomas son of Andrew Bokerell and Womalen de Haliwell towards the West, the lands of Peter son of William fil’ Aluph and de Holywell towards the East, and extended from “via fori” (Cheapside) to the land which was of Radulph Aswy, and lands
which Helias, Acon and Helie, sons of Leo Blomildi, a Jew toward the North. (Watney p. 9)

1231. Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester caused the Church of St. Thomas the Martyr founded in 1191, to be removed to a more convenient place and caused the Patriarch of Jerusalem to take order that the brethren of the Church who were before laymen might be under the Order of the Templars, wearing a cross on their breast (Watney, p. 2.)

1232-3. Alexander de Dorset sold to the Prior and Canons of the Holy Trinity, London, lands with houses in the parish of St. Mary Colecherch at the corner of Ysmonger Lane, to support a canon and say mass for his soul daily, paying yearly to the heirs of Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, a tercel or 4 besants, 7/- to the monks of St. Albans, and 11/- to the monks of Holy Trinity, Canterbury (A 2073). This was witnessed by his nephew, Andrew Bekeril, Mayor of London, and others.

1234. Jury of parish of Colechurch, in London, and adjoining parishes, to enquire whether the house which Aaron Blundus, Jew of London, formerly held in said parish of Peter fil Alof, and of which Aaron was disseized was of the fee of St. Thomas or not. If not Aaron to be restored in possessession (Close Roll, 18, Henry III, p. 484).

To the mayor and sheriff of London. For the brothers of the Hospital of St. Thomas martyr of Acre, of the house which was of Aaron Blundus, Jew of London. We have satisfied Aaron Blundus and his companions, Jews of London, 40 marks, which they owed to the said Jews for a house in London, which they bought from the said Jews which was formerly of Peter fil Alovi." The brethren have full seizin (id., p. 490).

1243. Henry de Neville, was master.

1244-8. Robert Waley, was master.

1248. Letter from Pope Innocent to the Bishop of London, permitting the Master and Brethren of the House of Knights of St. Thomas the Martyr of Acon, residing in England to erect a Chapel near their house. (Watney, p. 237).

1249. Philip Marmion, Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, granted to the Hospital 5/- out of the 20/-
APPENDIX II.

annual quit rent due from the tenement in which St. Thomas was born. He afterwards remitted the other 15/- provided they paid a half-penny in silver.

Sir Vincent fil Milo gave land between the land of Osbert Fuket, and of John le Ounschere, saving the service of 2/- paid by the Chamberlain of St. Peter of Gloucester.

Henry III, gave messuage and a place between the Church of St Olave, and the tenement where St. Thomas was born in pure alms.

n.d. Peter son of William fil’ Alluf by Dame Alice, granted to William the Jew, son of Reginald de Berkeleysted, of a chamber and cellar under a stone house. (Watney, p. 239).

1250. Inquisition as to the property held in London by Jacob Crespin, a Jew, consisting of houses in Wudestrete and Ismongerelane. The writ is dated 6 May, 34 Henry III. (This is Inq. p.m., 34, Henry III, No. 50, see p. 33, of the Calendarium Genealogicum, and is shortly noted in the Catalogue of the Anglo Jewish Historical Exhibition, 1887, p. 177.

1253. On Charter Roll 37, Henry III. 1253 Cal., page 423), is a Confirmation by the King, to St. John Colchester of i.a., lands, etc., given them by Eudo Dapifer and i.a., the Church of St. Mary de Newchurch, London. This is absolute proof of the identity of the Church of St. Mary Colechurch and St. Mary Newchurch.

1267. Under this date Stow ii., p. 158, says that Thomas fil’ Theobald de Helles and Agnes his wife founded the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, but this is an obvious mistake as the site was given by them in 1190. The date moreover is an impossible one for no sister of St. Thomas could have then been alive.

1267. William de Huntingfield, was master.

1269. Walter Hăuteyn, alderman of London, B.


1277. Roger Béyvin leaves rents in the Chapel of St. Mary Colechurch (Stow i., p. 6), R.M.C., and gives to the fraternity of St. Thomas the Martyr, at the Conduit. (Watney, p. 29).
1285. (13, Edward I). Roger de Northcote who died the Friday before St. Martin, and was found by Inquisition (No. 582, p. 346), of Inquisition, vol II, and was seized (i.a.), in London City of a house of the Cutlers, opposite the Conduit, held by the brethren of St. Thomas Acon rendering £12 yearly to the said Roger which house pertains to the manor of Thornham, Kent, which (manor) is held of Sir William de Say.

The manor of Thornham with the messuage of Bengebury which he also held, was held by him of Sir William de Say, at the service of half a knight's fee, doing 15½- yearly for the guard of the Castle of Dover, and 5 marks to Sir John de Cobham.

His son and heir was John, aged 31, at the nativity of St. John the Baptist, 14, Edward I.

n.d. (A 1614). Confirmation by Geoffrey fil' Geoffrey, alderman of a grant by his grandson Reginald, son of William de Hauville, in exchange for a house in Coleman cherche parish, towards Algate and 2 houses in the parish of Wlndomarie Church.

1303. The Priory of the Holy Trinity let to Richer de Reffham, citizen and mercer (Reepham in Norfolk, our first Norfolk mayor in London), a tenement in the parish of St. Mary Colechurch, between Ysmonger Lane and... also the sullars at the corner of the said lane, between such tenement and the sullars late of Adam de St. Albans next Chepe in the said parish also 3 shops, next the highway of Chepe. (Ancient Deed A 7373).


There can hardly be any doubt that this William de Say was the William de Say, Governor of Rochester Castle who died 1272, descended from the William de Say who married Beatrix, the daughter of Geoffrey Mandeville, or that he obtained this property through the de Mandeville, who had it for William de Mandevill's marriage with Margaret the daughter of Eudo de Rye, the holder in William's time. This is another proof of this marriage, now denied, I think by Dr. Round only Henry de Say was King's Chamberlain, in London then. Who he was, and his connection with William de Say has not, I think, been proved. Banks does not mention him.

He was King's butler in 1407-8, and as before quoted he was a witness with Galfr de (le ?) Botelor, dean of St. Martin's London, William de (le ?) Boteler, John de Chauz (?) Ralph Chaunda.
APPENDIX II.

1324. 18 Edward II. Magdalen Hospital, St. Thomas, Master of Acon, held 32 acres of land abutting on the Thames (Abb., Pl., p. 352).

1333. Johanna de Mandeville endowed land in London, to support a chantry for the souls of herself and her relations at the altar of St. Thomas the martyr in the Monastery of Waltham Cross. (Hustings Will, 1 pp. 285-589).

1338. Bartholomew de Colchester, Master of the Monastery of Waltham Cross. (Hustings Will 1 pp. 285. Church and Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, has letters appoints or attorney in Ireland (Pat. Cal., p. 390.)

In 1340 Bartholomew de Colecestre, then Master and the brethrens of the Hospital had a confirmation of a larger number of grants in frank almoins to the Master and the Brethren of the Knight Templars of the Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr of Canterbury of Acon by Theobald de Helles, the founder, and others (Pat. Roll Cal., 14 Edward III., p. 12).

If this is not an error the founder must have been Theobald de Helles, and not his alleged son, Thomas.
APPENDIX III.

THE MIRACLES OF ST. THOMAS.

I am indebted to Mr. G. R. Potter, of St. John’s College, Cambridge (formerly of the Norwich Grammar School) for the following translations of the local miracles attributed to St. Thomas, set out at length in the Rolls Series Life, and especially to him for pointing out that in the Lynn miracle the saint is said to have asked for prayers for the soul of his father [Gilbert]. This may possibly point to some connection of the London Portreeve with Lynn. It will be remembered that Sunolfus de Lynn flourished there in the reign of Henry II, and was father of Robert, the first Mayor of Lynn in 1223. Sunolf was one of the wealthy Lynn merchants, who were found there before 1165, and seem to have transferred the seat of their activities to London.

I, p. 242.

A Blind Woman of Happisburgh Cured.

A woman came from a long distance to Canterbury, brought by a guide, that she who could not see might have her sight restored. Her name (if it needs to be known and whence she came and what she was called) was Agnes and her birthplace Happisburgh. For she, although she had taken the blood of the martyr in her eyes being blind for the last eight years, began to be afflicted with swellings of her eyelids, and was at once compelled to return; she could not even keep her guide on account of her poverty. On the way her eyes were stricken by the wind and rain, and the hand of the Lord lay heavy upon her, that the very last hope of sight was removed. But she was not injured by this which was rather a preparation for the restoration of her sight. For while her eyelids were being beaten, the useless matter flowed out and the diseased tissue was removed and the impediment in her sight taken away. Thus the skilled doctor by a new kind of healing bade those that were wont to see become blind and to the blind gave sight. Therefore she returned home, so perfectly restored to sight that she could thread a needle, work with her hands
and pay off the debts she had incurred for the expenses of the journey.

I. p. 236.

*Ascelina of Wiggenhall (?)* cured of a paralytic affection in her face.

A woman, Ascelina, was afflicted with the same disease (*i.e.*, paralysis) but in a part of her body. Her mouth was distorted to her ear. Some contraction beneath the skin pulled up one jaw and pushed out the other so that one did not reach far enough and the other protruded. This meant that one of her eyelids was pushed back revealing a reddish white skin. When she saw that this blemish spoiled her beauty (for by nature she was fair to behold) with feminine modesty she withdrew, not showing herself as she was wont to the eyes of her neighbours, but remained in hiding until, favoured by the beams of divine favour, she could appear in public, restored to health; which happened thus.

She came to Canterbury, interceded with the martyr Thomas for her affliction, and went away to offer prayers to the patron saints of the neighbourhood. When she came to the gates of St. Saviour’s Church, she suddenly changed colour and attitude, and as if tormented within, began to twist her arms, clap her hands and show the usual signs of insanity. Then falling down she rolled on the ground. At once she arose, the right proportions of her face restored. Her husband, Maurice of Wiggenhall (*Mauricius de Wigewale*) stood by, marvelling like the rest, and, bearing her along with many followers gave thanks, praising the martyr not so much on her account as because of the health restored to her (or to himself (sibi) concerning which although time presses, mention must be made.

The husband of whom we speak had thought to return as early as possible that day to his business. While he passed the night asleep, waiting for the dawn, pitying his wife who hated travelling at night, he beheld a youth with a beautiful face come to him and say “If thou wouldst see the holy High Priest Thomas before you depart, follow me.” And so having led him into the Monastery of St. Saviour his guide disappeared and he be-
held the martyr standing with clasped hands and bowed head, as if about to celebrate mass. But seeing the sight he turned round and imagined that he had been divinely warned to visit the sepulchre of the martyr before his departure. Therefore when dawn broke, being about to do as he had imagined, he told the dream to the citizen with whom he was staying, and heard in return the directions of many saints of the church, open to prayer and ready to help. And behold while they were talking together, he received his sight, for he was blind in one eye having a stigma which bled profusely. Whereupon he exclaimed. "Thank God! I see! I see! Formerly seeing one man I used to imagine there were two; now God having bestowed His grace upon His unworthy servant I clearly perceive the smallest hair." So quickly, as bidden by the vision, and warned by the sign of the miracle, he hastened to offer thanks. And having paid these, what has been told concerning his wife happened before the gates of the church.

II., p. 216.

After bleeding, the whole arm including the hand and shoulder of a knight of Norfolk, Guarinus surnamed Gros, swelled and hardened like a stone and the swelling seemed to extend to the heart. It could scarcely be seen by how much the arm was separated from the body; one would say that the size of either was almost the same. They put on many plasters and much ointment which rather increased than reduced the swelling. The knight was at last given up (as dead), and a careful guardian appointed as if he were at the point of death; the last medicine tried was an antidote from Canterbury, and the arm of the dying man several times washed in the water of the wonderful martyr. While therefore the knight lay as if in a trance, the martyr seemed to stand by him and say: "Arise Guarinus, and bow down before me." He thought that he did as he was commanded. Then said the saint "Do again what you have done." He obeyed, and the third time he heard from the martyr "Do the same again the third time." Thereupon the martyr seemed to say these words to some of those standing by "Wipe away the matter from him in the place of the holy water." At these words he at once arose and sat up and showed
to the amazed watchers of the dying man his arm which just previously he could not bend at all, now that the pain had disappeared, he could bend as easily as the other. Asked by the knight in what sense I understood the words of the saint, leaving the more subtle of them to be understood by the more subtle, this simply I expounded them. "Wipe away the matter from him" that is, "take away the pain of his weakness," "in the place of the holy water," that is, "in the arm where my blessed and holy water was placed."

II., p. 104.

Guncelinus a monk of Norwich cured.

The convent of the Church of Norwich knows how much the arm of the monk Guncelinus was swollen and how much he suffered from it. The arm was covered up by the handkerchief of the martyr and uncovered after a certain time and the whole burden of his infirmity taken away from him.

I., p. 215.

Ivo of Lynn and others saved from a tempest.

A tempest overtook Ivo of Lynn and a large number of ships sailing for the distant parts of Norway. The saint appeared to a priest sleeping in the ship of the said Ivo, and said "Friest, do you sleep? Arise and put into the minds of your companions that they each say twenty times the Lord's Prayer for the soul of my father and you shall not perish." All the rest of the ships were scattered, some damaged and broken, and several sunk. This I learn from a certain clerk, Robert of Lincoln, who escaped from that very tempest in the same ship. There are many [miracles] beside this of the same kind, but one and the same food cannot constantly be taken without nausea.

I., p. 190 and II., p. 234.

De puella cancerosa et mortua.

I remember having spoken of a certain Jordan whose son we have seen raise from the dead. It ought to be told now too of another of the same name but of inferior condition whose daughter we have seen by a not
inferior prodigy raised from a double death. Therefore, in the diocese of Norwich, a girl, Cecilia, aged about fifteen was stricken with cancer. Of whom in short, while by virginal modesty she preferred to endure pain rather than reveal the cause of her shame, her thighs were eaten away, so that the bones of her joints were exposed and the ligaments of her muscles extended. The breath of the wound was equal to a foot in measurement, and an intolerable exhalation escaped so that even her mother wished her dead and her friends deserted her. Corruption every day consumed the swellings with which the devouring disease was accompanied. After suffering from this plague from harvest time until March she was brought to the point of death. So from the third week to the sixth she was not refreshed with food or drink but remained in bed, lying by the wall, her knees bent, her eyes open and motionless, seeming neither alive or dead. The servants looking at her imagined that she was in an ecstasy; remembering a certain woman of the neighbourhood named Agnes who while asleep was taken by the blessed Catharine and carried in the spirit through divers places and shown the rewards and punishments of the dead; among whom she saw a certain priest Godwin, who had died a few days before, seriously stricken, with his knees constantly beaten with a key. He was thought to be punished in this way because while living in the flesh he had carried off the key of St. Mary's Church while another priest celebrated mass there.

And it came to pass that while the said maiden remained motionless a woman of the neighbourhood who was very fond of her came to visit her. When she saw her dead, she exclaimed, 'therefore is not the dead girl laid out before us who see and depart, on her bed in a shroud [cilicium] according to the custom of dying Catholics? You have acted foolishly.' So she was taken outside the house and laid in the courtyard, rigid, and with her eyes wide open. A linen cloth also was placed on the corpse and the customary burial lights burnt. Her father, who kept himself apart, oppressed alike with toil and grief, refusing sleep, rushed in shouting, 'If the Lord is favourable unto me, my daughter is not dead. O blessed Thomas, return now to me the service. that I formerly industriously rendered to you.'
And he repeated with mournful voice, "Give me back my service. My need is pressing, give me back my service." Thus briefly he spake, adding nothing.

The blessed Thomas, before he had been raised to high position, before his name and abilities had been extended by Fortune, had lived with a certain clerk named Turstanus (?Thurston), a Kentishman, who was actively performing his duties as Proctor of the Archbishop Theobald in a place called Croindenne (Croydon). While there, Thomas was ill and could drink nothing, neither wine nor spirit which should make him drunk; and so, by the care and inquiry throughout the neighbourhood of that servant (vernaculus) Jordan, he drank whey, as his complaint demanded. Jordan also cured the one horse of his own that he had.

Relying upon this and added liberality, he reiterated, "Give me back my service." This he repeated until he was hoarse, and the saint, moved by his piety, did not wish to seem ungrateful. So he restored the girl to life, who immediately drawing her hand towards her spoke, although not yet intelligibly, being so weakened by her illness and death. On the next day she took food and drink. Further her cankered thighs were restored within three weeks, the matter disappearing.

When this marvel had been accomplish, the aforesaid man, the father of the girl, went into the presence of his lord the Bishop of Norwich, showing him the matter and seeking letters testimonial, lest when he returned to Canterbury and told the tale he should be thought to be speaking of his own ideas and imagination and without authority. The Bishop indeed did not quite believe him until he had called a priest and those who had been present, together with two matrons of approved lives who had examined the signs of the disease and who told the whole story in order. Providentially, it was arranged that a diligent inquisition should remove all possibility of doubt. And so the matter was attested by letters sealed with his mark to the worthy brethren in God in the Church of Canterbury. Its form was as follows:—

William by the Grace of God Bishop of Norwich to his venerable brethren in the Lord the Prior and Holy Convent of Canterbury, eternal greeting in Christ. We
have longed greatly to notify to your holiness the wonders of God which have happened in our diocese concerning those who are stricken with various diseases out of the great devotion that they have towards the most holy Saint of God, Thomas which they extend spontaneously. Wherefore since God by working miracles does not wish to keep his sanctity concealed, wherefore should men presume to hide it? Wherefore, according to the testimony of a certain William, priest of our country, and of many others of our men, we have learnt that our servant Cecilia, daughter of one of our men, was long stricken with the disease of cancer, which finally consumed her thighs, until at last she was so overcome by the disease that she was considered insane and finally exposed in the courtyard as dead. Whereupon the soul of her father was consumed with bitterness, yet, trusting in the mercy of God and the merits of the blessed martyr, breaking into a voice of grief, he called upon the saint of God with devout mind, and by divine aid obtained the restoration of his daughter to her former health. Wherefore we have sent her to you, to the glory of so great a miracle, who has been restored by the merits of the blessed martyr to her former health, with the testimony of our writing, Farewell.

I. p. 245.

De non retinente urinam presbytero.

The disease of diabetes comes from heat and from incontinence, when the bladder cannot hold its water, Randulf, an aged priest, a simple and upright man, was troubled with this for two years. After earthly doctors had been tried in vain, he went to the heavenly doctor, praying that he might not dishonour his priestly office by human weakness. The answer to his petition followed. For within three days he was restored to health and returned to his village of Ingworth (Ineworth) where he undertook the charge of his few sheep with watchful care, so as to return a smaller reckoning before the tribunal of the stern Judge, in so far as, content with little he kept his desires within bounds. For the reception of such grace freely, he was warned by a dream at night to build an altar to the Martyr Thomas.

I. p. 423.
APPENDIX III.

There came to Canterbury by the secret inspiration of the same martyr a knight, Richard by name, learned and eloquent, called Punckard (a Pungente Carduo), who constantly bore witness to the mutilation of the man in the presence of the people gathered near at hand.

II. p. 137.

Richard Wise (Ricardum cognomento Sapientem, virum de Roeis comitissae familia) cured of diarrhoea and dysentery.

[Details lurid but of no importance or interest.]

I. p. 408.

Among others, a certain youth, William by name, called de Tierceville (cognominatus de Terrici villa), to wit a nephew of Archbishop Theobald of happy memory, simple and, as we believe, innocent of all fleshly lust and worldly life, was seriously ill. [St. Thomas appeared to him and told him that his master (the Bishop of Exeter) would be cured of his fever, and as a sign cured the youth.]

II. p. 158.

A noble matron of the diocese of Lincoln, Constance by name, relict of the illustrious Robert Fitzgilbert, told us that her daughter Constance, a nun of Stiworld, was entirely paralysed. [She was cured at once by the Saint’s glove, but could not, as a nun, go to Canterbury herself. So her mother and son Robert, and his betrothed Matilda, went instead. Matilda was cured while there].
APPENDIX IV.

PRIORIES, CHURCHES, CHAPELS, CHANTRIES, GUILDS, HOSPITALS, LIGHTS, PILGRIMAGES, WELLS, WALL AND SCREEN PAINTINGS, dedicated to St. Thomas the martyr.

These are included in the following alphabetical list but it may be as well to specially point out that Broomehill Priory, Thorpland Church, and that Chapels at Custhorpe, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Mousehold Heath, Norwich, Shipham, Spixworth, Walsingham, Westacre and Wymondham, the Hospital at Billingford were dedicated to him, that there were Pilgrimages to Norwich, Terrington St. John’s and Westacre, a holy well at Wymondham, and that Paintings, etc., depicting his martyrdom are or were at Burgh St. Peter, Burlingham St. Edmund, Burnham Market, Eaton, Hingham and Yarmouth, and in the Carrow Psalter.

The very numerous guilds and lights to his honour are all mentioned in the alphabetical list.

The total places where he was commemorated in the County therefore number 92, as far as at present ascertained but there were probably very many more, as the lists given by Blomefield and Tanner seem to have been compiled at haphazard and in many Churches so mentioned of either guilds or lights are given at all.

ATTLEBOROUGH. (?) on the Screen, Husenbeth, viii, p. 1.
ATTLEBOROUGH. Image of St. Thomas, iv., p. 680.
BACONSTHORPE. Guild to him.
BARMHAM. Guild to, C. H.
BARTON TURF. Guild of St. Thomas, T. iv., p. 790.
BILLINGFORD. Hospital founded in his honour by 1291, Abbey and Stations, p. 287.
BINHAM ABBEY. On the Screen, also Guild to St. Mary and St. Thomas the martyr, Tanner, ii., p. 382.
BIRCHAM MAGNA, Altar to St. Thomas and St. Nicholas, Tanner, iv., p. 661.
BIRCHAM TOFTS, Guild to St. Thomas, vi., p. 662.
BLAKENEY. Guild to him but the Church not dedicated to him until quite recently.
BRISLEY. Guild to him.
APPENDIX IV.

BROOMHILL, near Weeting (Austin Canons), dedicated to B. V. M., and to him.

BROMHOLM PRIORY.  Guild to, Norris, p. 349.
BUCKENHAM OLD.  Guild to St. Thomas, Tanner iv., p. 690.
BURGH ST. PETER.  Mural painting of his Martyrdom.
BURLINGHAM ST. ANDREW.  On the Screen.
BURLINGHAM ST. EDMUND.  Mural painting of his martyrdom.

BUXTON.  Guild to Carrow.
CAWSTON.  Guild to him, Tanner ii., p. 216.
CORPUSTY.  Guild to him, Light before his image, Tanner ii., p. 218.
COSTESSEY.  In Window, Husenbeth.
CUSORTH.  Chapel to (see West Acre).
DEOPHAM.  Guild to him, Tanner iii., p. 604.
DEREHAM EAST.  Guild to him, Light and Chapel to St. Thomas, martyr, Tanner, iii., p. 607.

EATON.  Painting of his martyrdom, see opposite, by mistake this have been attributed to Easton.
EDGEFIELD.  Guild to him.
FAKENHAM.  Chapel to him, Blomefield VII, p. 97.
FOXLEY.  Guild and Tabernacle to him, Tanner, ii., p. 309.
GRESSENHALL.  Guild Chapel and Altar to him.
GLAMFORD.  Guild to him.
HAVERINGLAND.  Light in Chancel to him, Tanner ii., p. 314.

HEACHAM.  Guild to St. Thomas, VI., p. 670.
HEITHERSETT.  Altar to St. Thomas, iv., p. 642.
HINGHAM.  Mural painting of his Martyrdom.  Light to him, Tanner, iii., p. 611.
HOLME AND WICKMORE.  Guild to St. Thomas the martyr, iv., p. 668.
HORSHAM ST. FAITH'S.  On the Screen.
LYNN.  7 Guilds to him.

(a)  St. Thomas the Martyr and All Saints.  Certic 123c.
(b)  St. Thomas of Canterbury, id., 116c, (N. A. M., 1, p. 169.)
(c) St. Thomas in St. Nicholas id., No. 112 (English Gilds, p. 47.)
(d) St. Thomas in St. Nicholas Church, id., No. 120c (English Gilds, p. 60).
(e) St. Thomas the Martyr, id., 131.
(f) St. Thomas of Canterbury, id., 108 (English Gilds, p. 80).
(g) Holy Trinity. Translation of B. V. M. and St. Thomas, id., 38.

LYNN SOUTH or ALL SAINTS, altar, Tanner, ii., p. 272. and image to. Rectory belonged to West Acre Priory.

MARSHAM. Guild to, Tanner, ii., p. 229.

MARTHAM (FLEGG). Guild to St. Thomas, Norris, Sub Add., lox., ix.

MATTISHALL. Guild to him, Tanner, p. 615.

NARFORD. Chapel to, Blomefield ix., p. 313.

MILEHAM. Guild to, Tanner ii.

NORWICH.

(a) Altar and Pilgrimage to, in the Cathedral (Blomefield, p. 30), also on Cloister Bosses.
(b) Chapel on Mosehold Heath, Translation of St. Thomas Becket, v., p. 426, and vii, p. 269.
(c) Chapel in the Black Friars Hall. Harrods C. and C., p. 94.
(d) Old glass in St. Peter Hungate.
(e) Chapel and light to window St. Gregory, Tanner ii, where belonged to the Valoinges family (Blomefield iv., p. 277).
(f) Image and light to window St. Martin-at-Oak, (id.)
(g) Light to window St. Miles Coslany.
(h) Light to window St. Peter Mancroft (id).
(i) Light and Altar to window St. Stephens (id).
(j) Guild in Chapel of St. Thomas in the Wood (id).
(k) Image on North Side of Church of Friars Minor (id).

(m) Carving of Martyrdom on Cloister Bosses.

OXBURGH. On the Screen.

POTTER HEIGHAM. Light to him, Blomefield ix., p. 313. and a bell to (id), light to, Tanner iv., p. 80.

RACKHEATH. Guild to, Tanner ii., p. 370.

RANWORTH. On the Screen and a Guild to him.
APPENDIX IV.

ROLLESBY. Light to him.
RYBURGH. Chapel and Guild to, Tanner, ii., p. 350. St. Olaves’ where his martyrdom is depicted, see title page.
SALL. A Chapel and an Image to him (id.)
SCOTLOW. Image to and a cloth to draw before it.
SPARHAM. On the Screen.
SPIXWORTH. Image, Chapel and Guild to him, Tanner, ii., p. 373.
STALHAM. On the Screen.
SWAFFHAM. A Guild to him.
SWANTON MORLEY. Guild to him, Tanner ii.
TAVERTHAM. A guild to him.
TERRINGTON ST. JOHN. Pilgrimage to, in 1428, Tanner ii.

THORNHAM. A Guild to St. Thomas the martyr, iv. p. 681.
THORPLAND CHURCH. Dedicated to St. Thomas, this belonged to West Acre Priory, Tanner iii., p. 583.
THURSFORD. Guild to (C.H.)
TIBENHAM. A guild to him, Tanner ii.
TUNSTEAD. A Guild to him, light to St. Thomas of Canterbury, Tanner, iv., p. 820.
UPTON. Chapel and Altar (Hill’s Upton, p. 51).
UPWELL. An altar and a guild to him.
WALPOLE. Chantry to, Tanner ii., p. 294.
WALSHAM N. A Guild to him.
WALSINGHAM. Chapel to him, within the precincts, Tanner i., p. 390.
WALSOKEN. Guild to, Blomefield, ix., p. 128.
WEETING, see Bromehill.
WELLS. Guild to (C. H.)
WESTON, Image of him, Tanner, ii., p. 296.
WESTACRE. A chapel, an altar, a guild, and a market, Blomefield, vi., p. 239. Pilgrimage to, Tanner, ii., p. 267.
WIGHTON. Guild to (C. H.)
WITCHINGHAM. Light to
WOOD DAILING. Guild and Chapel, Tanner, ii., p. 307.
WORSTEAD. On the Screen.
WORSTEAD. Chapel of St. Thomas, Tanner, ii., p. 830.
WYMONDHAM. Chapel and a holy well to him. (Tom Martin’s Coll.)

WYMONDHAM. Altar to him. Brotherhood of St. Thomas of Wattlesfield, Tanner, ii., p. 627.

WYMONDHAM. Guild to begun 1187 (see N. & N.A.S., XI p. 134).

YARMOUTH. Mural Painting of his martyrdom.

YARMOUTH. Chapel, Image and Altar to, Tanner ii.

Of all the above references perhaps the most decisive is the fact that the best representation of the martyrdom is that the Carrow Psalter, which once belonged to St. Olaves Priory, founded about 1216 by a Norfolk man, Roger Fitz Osbert, as an Augustinian Priory, just as Westacre and Merton were, and endowed by his son Peter with the advowson of Whittingham in Norfolk. Peter’s niece Alice married John de Noion, of Sall. At Sall there was a Chapel and an image to him (see p. 48). De Noion also had to do with Mountjoy Priory (also Augustinian) founded by William de Gneys, a benefactor of Horsham (Blomefield, viii, p. 3), where there was also a image of the martyr on the screen (p. 46.)

Another important point is that Roger fil Peter Fitz Osbert married Sarra de Crek, whose kinswoman Isabel married de Valoines, and one of the family whose intimate connection with the Martyrs family is shown elsewhere.

There were no less than 75 bells in Norfolk dedicated to St. Thomas, most of which I apprehend were to the martyr, p. 121, vis., Croxton, near Thetford (L’E. Bells, p 153); Erpingham, p. 130; Freethorpe, p. 134; Hackford, p. 138; Potter Heigham, 143 (this certainly was, for there was also a light to him, ix., p. 384); Hemstead, 144; Illington, 150; Kenninghall, 152; Lessingham, 152; Norwich (St. Peter Mancroft), 163; Ormesby, 188; Tharston, 221; Tuddenham, 228; Wicklewood, 258; Witton, p. 242.

Several of these had the same inscription “Nos Thome Meritis Mereamur gaudia Lucis.”

8 Suffolk bells dedicated to St. Thomas, L’E, p. 248. The general references in Suffolk were very numerous, though nothing like as many as in Norfolk; Mr. Vincent Redstone, of Woodbridge has kindly pointed to me that Cardinal Wolsey seems to have adopted him as his patron saint.
APPENDIX V.

HELLES.

The clue through Thomas fil Theobald de Helles who married Agnes, sister of the Martyr, and with her is said to have given the site of the Hospital in Cheapside is a curious one. The site is said to have once belonged to Agnes' father Gilbert who lived on it where the Martyr was born. Gilbert was Portreve of London, 1135-1154 (Stowe, i, p. 364). The date of the gift is uncertain, Stowe, says, the dedication of the site by Agnes and her husband was before 1189, but was probably given soon after the murder in 1171, and I think the evidence shows that Agnes gave it by herself, in the first instance and that Thomas de Helles afterwards married her, and about 1221-8, confirmed his wife's gift, for his wife's name is not mentioned in the Cartulary (Watney, p. 237), which implies she was then dead. The date of 1227 given as the foundation date seem obviously wrong. It is not likely the foundation would have been delayed for 56 years after the martyrdom.

The statement in Lofties' London (Historic Town Series), p. 40, that Agnes Beckett "was married to a member of a good old city family, Theobald Agodshelf (in Latin Ex parte Dei) who was baron of Hulles or Helles in Ireland," seems absolutely unfounded, if we may judge from the negative results that the name of Agodshelf is never mentioned in London archives such as the Hustings Wills, the Letter Books, or Stowe.

Equally absurd is the idea that the family of Godsall got its surname from Agodshelf—Godshelf—Godsalve. As a fact the name first appears in England in 1342, when "Sir" Richard Godsaliu, apparently an Italian priest, appears in the Pat. Cal., p. 435.

It will save trouble and clear the ground if I admit at once that the statement I made in my first letter to the Times Library Supplement (5th April, 1923), viz., that Thomas fil Theobald de Helles was identical with a Thomas de Hellesdon, and possibly a de Valoines now seems indefensible.
Nor does my subsequent suggestion that he was the son of a Thomas, son of Theobald Hautein of Hellesdon seem to bear investigation. There are excuses for both my guesses, for Blomefield (vi., p. 471) distinctly refers to Theobald Hautein having a son Thomas, and gives a specific reference to F. of F. of Divers Counties, lig., No. 62, but recent reference to the original document does not bear out the statement; Blomefield may have had some other authority for the statement that Theobald did have a son Thomas, but I cannot find it.

That there were close connections between the village of Hellesdon and the Hospital built in Cheapside to the honour of the Martyr no one can deny on the face of the facts I have given in appendix ii.

The confusion as to the surname of Hellesdon was not one of my making. It was begun by the Dukes of Osmond in the time of Queen Elizabeth as will be shown in detail a few pages further on.

If “Helles” is not a shortening of “Hellesdon” in Norfolk, as I surmised at first it must be looked for in Kent and Sussex.

My identity theory seems demolished by Dr. Rounds positive statement that there is in existence a charter of Theobald de “Helles,” and that the name is engraved on the seal of it. It is a pity he gives no reference to where it is or to what property it relates and all I can say that very careful search on my part has failed to find it.

It may be that he was the “Teb” (Theobald) who with his three brothers sued Manasser de Hastings for land in Gravenel (Sussex), see post, which may be Graveney, near Faversham, though that is now in Kent.

The following references in order of date may help future workers on the subject. They all seem to point to Helles being in the southern counties of Surrey, Sussex or Kent, and do not in any way help the alleged Irish descent already mentioned.

1167 (?) certainly before 1190. Thomas Fil’ Theobald de Helles married Agnes Becket before the date when they founded the Hospital of St. Thomas Acon. This is the tale told, but she may have founded the Hospital before she married. He confirmed the gift of the site about 1221-8, by which time she was probably dead, as she did not join in the deed.

1199. Simon Dericus puts Tebald (Theobald ?), seneschall, and Gill (Gilbert) de Helle as his attorney (?) on a plea of land in Surrey (id. ii., p. 190).
Simon de Buresworth v. Gill’ de Hell’ as to 40 acres and a messuage in Surrey (id., p. 191).
(All these three Simons may be the same.)

1206-7. Assiza de morte antecessoris between Adam de Helles and his brothers, Tebb’ (Theobald ?) William and William, and Manasser de Hastings as to a carucate of land in Grevenel (Abb. Plac., p. 56).

1225. Emma de Helles, prioress of Dartford, Kent (Pat. Roll Cal., p. 577).

1229. Brian de Helles, a man of Philip de Pyrie (Ch. Roll Cal., p. 173).


Under the entries de debitis Judeorum (?) “Prior of Hospital of Jerusalem.”

1241. Alicia de Helles pays ½ mark pro lic’ conc (per plegium Reiner de Bung’ (?) error for Reiner de Burg.

1263. Alice who was the wife of Theobald de Helles in Kent (Roberts Fine Roll, p. 404). Probably the Alice de Helles, temp Edward I, who held land in Wodecourt of the Bishop of Rochester, (Ch., Misc., Inq., ii., p. 562.) This is said to be Dareth, Kent.

See my sheet pedigree of the de Burghs in Norf., Ant., Misc., N.S., i., p. 80. Reyner de Burgh is said to have married Christiana daughter of Robert de Valoins the widow of Robert Fitz Walter.

1289. Grant to Thomas de Helles of free warren in his demesne in Helles and Dartford, Kent (Charter Rolls, p. 340). Probably he was the son of a Theobald de Helles and this Alice. But he cannot have been the Thomas son of Theobald de Helles who was alive in 1221, and who married Agnes Becket even if we put the date of the foundation of the Hospital later than 1190, as may well be if we consider Agnes founded it before she married.

1291. Grant from Robert de Doreby and Margt. de Helles his wife to “Sir” Walter de Blakeg Chaplain of the quitrent of a tenement in parish of St. John Zachary London (Hustings Wills).
1303. De Johanne de Helles in Messing, see post 1428 Hundred of Lexendden Essex ¼ k. f., another quarter was held by Thomas Baynard and Walter de Opton, see (Feudal Aids, ii., p. 138).

(Aids ii., p. 138). In 1346 Isabella held the tent next to Richard le Paumer, her quarter during minority of Thomas, son of John Baynard which Thomas Baynard formerly held.

1307. Helles, of Darenth, Kent, occurs in No. 2094 of Misc., Inq. of Chancery.

1310—1. John Helle and others were executors of William Hasard (City Letter Books of London). In the same year (letter book D), John Helles is called late apprentice of William Mercer, mercer.


1346. William Butler held a knight’s fee which Walter de Upton and John Helles held (Essex). (Feudal Aids, ii., p. 171.)

1307 Assignment from John Child the elder of the parish of “Hellites” (Ancient Deeds C. 45.)

N. B. C. 43 is a receipt from Alice widow of William de Bury, draper of London to Sir John Blount, and C. 44 is a receipt to Sir Thomas Mandevyll the Yr., for £40 pd., in London.

1428. Tents of Jno. de Helles for ¼ knight’s fee in Messing (Essex) (Feudal Aids, iii., p. 220). See ante 1303.

An undated deed among the MS. Sussex Chartes, 240x, in the Brit. Mus., referring to Thomas Hellys, of Brinchley whose daughter married William Benett, as to a messuage in Wadherst.

Helles has also been thought to be the same name as Halels. There are also several places called Hell or Helles or Herls, in Suffolk and the surname of atte Helle is not unusual.

It may be as well, while on the subject, to try and clear up the strange tale invented on behalf of the Butlers
APPENDIX V.

Duke of Osmond in the time of Elizabeth, *viz.*, that the Butlers of Ireland was the son of Walter Fitz Gilbert and that the last named Gilbert was another son of Gilbert Becket, the father of the Martyr. The real connection of the great Irish family of Butler with that of de Valoines a family which appears cropping up everywhere in the course of this enquiry, is this:—

**Theobald de Valoines**

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**Maud de Valoines** = **Hervey Walter**

---

**Theobald Walter** = **Maud de Fayarol**

(who no doubt owed his Christian name to his maternal grandfather) went to Ireland in 1172, and had a grant there, died 1205-8.

---

**Theobald Butler** =

born 1200, died 1248

---

**Theobald**

died 1303

It will be seen from this that the Butlers connection with Beckett would have been only a cousinship through the Valoines match, but the Duke of Ormond was so obsessed with the idea that he had a direct descent from the Beckett's that he actually changed his name from Butler to Beckett.

The whole tale is told in Brydge's edition of Collins' Peerage, Vol. ix., p. 58.

I have had the "Documents relating to Ireland" (which purport to contain all references relating to Ireland) at the P.R.O. searched, also the MSS. Calendar of the Ormonde deeds, but I can find no evidence in its favour.

Theobald Butler is said to have a grant of lands in Kylcarnaway, circa 1194, but if this is Kilkenny it would not fit in with his being so described soon after the grant of 1171.

The same old tale about the Irish descent of the saints brother-in-law is repeated in Watney's History
of St. Thomas Acon, p. 8, where the saint’s brother-in-law is called Thomas Fitz Theobald de Helles in Kilkenny, who received large grants of land in Ireland from King Henry II. (1154-1189), and was the ancestor of the family of Butler Earls of Ormond, and through them the Boleyn family.

Theobald Fitz Walter (son of Hervey Walter, who had married Maud, daughter of Theobald de Valoines) who is the person meant undoubtedly had grant of lands in Ireland, may have had a son named Thomas, who may be the Thomas, but at present there is not the faintest evidence either of his existence or of any place ever been called Helles in Ireland.

‘‘Helles’’ is said to be in Kilkenny, in Ireland, but its very existence seems doubtful, and I find no reference to it in the Charter Rolls.

There was an Irish district called Eile, which appears in Anglo-Norman Documents as Ely, Eli, Hely or Heli (Register of St. Thomas Abbey, Dublin), and in 1185 Prince John (afterwards King), granted land there, but possession of it was not obtained till about 1192.

But as the Martyr was born in 1117 it is impossible that any sister of his could have married a son of Theobald Walter. Nor does any Thomas appear in history as the son of either of the last three Theobald Butlers.

The family of the Walters, afterwards Butlers, did not go into Ireland till 1172, and in London Thomas fil’ Theobald was living in 1221-28, so must have been at least 21 to have executed a deed, and so born at least by 1200.

Moreover, if he was husband to Agnes Becket, when he founded the Hospital in 1190, he must have been born at latest by 1169, which was before the Walters, afterwards Butlers, went to Ireland in 1172, and so could not have obtained the territorial name of Helles in Ireland, if there were such a place, for as shown above the Walters did not get possession of ‘‘Heli’’ till 1192.

All this, however, seems whipping a dead horse, for no one now believes the identity of the Walters with the Becketts, and Mr. Orpen the chief authority on the Anglo Normans, in Ireland, is positive that there is no foundation whatever for the Rev. Mr. Carte’s guesses.
APPENDIX VI.

THE WARRENS.

Another connection of Becket with Norfolk is still further shown by the fact that Reginald de Warenne (the grandson of the William de Warenne who founded Castle Acre in 1089), who was a Norfolk knight, and a benefactor to Southwark Priory, was also Sheriff of Surrey, joined with three Bishops, Roger of York, Gilbert of London, and Jocelin of Salisbury, and with Gervase de Cornhill, Sheriff of Kent, and Randulf de Broc, a conspiracy against Becket, see Life of Becket (Rolls Series), i, p. 100; ii, p. 424; v, p. 376, iv, p. 682 and 376.

In 1170 he accompanied Gervase de Cornhill and Randulf de Broc, and met Becket at Sandwich in no friendly way, and said they had been delegated by the King as guardians of the Country to take any suspected foreign clerks who did not take an oath of allegiance (i, p. 100).

When Becket stated his grievances to the King (iii, p. 114), Warren was one of those who advised the King not to redress them (i, p. 118). He also entered the chapter of the Canons of Southwark, and beseeched them "to pray to God for me at once, in the near future you will hear that things have been done in England, which have not been done or heard of in this age, but as far as I am concerned against me and my will; but I am not my own master." "The Canons who heard this were alarmed, not knowing what or of whom he spake until the matter was done by others, reproached himself remaining innocent of the blood of that fresh martyr" (id., iii, p. 114).

Whether this points out that Reginald dreaded what might happen to Becket must be doubtful. If he did it would weaken my argument that the killing was accidental.

The following short pedigree will show the connection of Reginald.
APPENDIX VII.

THE CRAMMAVILL FAMILY.

A William de Crammavill and his wife Lucy were parties in 1201 to a transfer by fine to John “Becket” son of Rohaisia the sister of the Martyr in Stifford and Turroke (Thurrock), in Essex.

This name occurs in conjunction with that of Valoines in 1189-90 (Rot Cur’ Reg. Richard I) in a litigation between Gilbert Pecche and Walter de Stiveli the Prior of Ramsey as to property in Kent, when Gilbert Pecche put in his place Theobald de Valunes and Roger de Crammavill.

The first of the name one Osbert de Crammavill held in Essex in 1166, a small holding under Walter fil’ Robert who was nephew of Rohaisia de Clare, and who married Eudo dapifer, and died in 1121 (See Round’s Feudal England pp., 472-5, and Lib. Rub., 1., p. 349).

Contemporary with this Osbert in Essex were Henry, Godfrey Hugh and Roger de Crammaville the last being connected with Theobald de Valoines sometime between 1189 and 1199, as attorney in a Hertfordshire suit as just mentioned.

Godfrey held in Norfolk and Suffolk of the Honour of Peverel under the Abbot of St. Benedict of Holm of which Honour Alan de Valoines also held, and Roger held in Dansey in Essex.

Later on a Henry de Crammavill also held in Stifford and Turroke, and the family continued in the Eastern Counties for some centuries, and one of them bore arms at Boroughbridge.
APPENDIX VIII.

AQUILA, DE L’AIGLE, OR AIGUILLON.

One of the few facts known about the Martyr is that in early youth, say after 1130, he is said to have been companion to one “Richer de L’Aigle” or de Aquila, said by Radford and others to be of Pevensey, in Sussex, Rolls Ser., ii., p. 395, iv., p. 6, and v., p. 72.

It will be best to first set out the tale as this is told in the ordinary text books, and to follow up with my idea that such tale is a misconception, and that the real or alternative name of the Martyr’s early patron was not de L’Aigle, or de Aquila, but de Aqullon. This view was adopted by the late M. A. Lower, but has recently been doubted. Below I show that there was a family of de Aiguillon who dwelt in London and Norfolk, married with the Beaufoys and Warrens were connected with the Valoines.

It has been assumed that the martyr indulged in his sporting tastes at Pevensey, but the Aiquillons were in Norfolk before this date, and connected with the Warrens at Castle Acre—see post. So that the sporting may have taken place at either in Norfolk or Sussex.

The probability, however, is in favour of the visits being to Sussex and the tradition of Becket planting the still existing fig orchard at Tarring bears this out.

It may be as well to see what others have printed about the Sussex family. It seems to me pure assumption to say that the Martyr ever sported at Pevensey, though it is probable enough.

Wace’s Chronicle (Taylor’s ed., p. 218) begins with:

1. Engerran de l’Aigle came with William I. and was killed at Hastings. His name is sometimes given as Engeram de l’Aigle, and the editor in a foot note calls him Engerand de l’Aigle, and says he appears to have been the son of Fulbert, the founder of the Castle de l’Aigle on the Rille in the arrondissement of Mortagne and that his children held Pevensey and large estates.

He is said to have had besides Gilbert (possibly the donee of Pevensey) and Roger a son.
2. Richer de l'Aigle who was no doubt Becket's friend, before 1140. He may be the man of that name who in 1081 was with Eudo de Rye dapifer witness to a charter dated at Winchester (Davis Regesta, No. 140, p. 37). One or other of these two Richers married Judith daughter of Richard de Abrincis, and had issue (besides a son Egenulf and a daughter, Maud, married first to Robert de Mowbray and afterwards to Nigel de Albini), a son.

3. Gilbert, "possessed of Weitlei in Surrey, temp. William I." (1066-1087, which must be an error of Banks), who married Juliana, daughter of Geoffrey, Earl of "Mauritaine," by whom he had besides Eugenulf and Geoffrey, who perished in the wreck of the White Ship with Henry I.'s children) and Gilbert, see post, a son. Probably the Gilbert de Aquila who was a witness to a charter to Castle Acre, founded by the Warrens, temp. Henry I. (1100-1135), (Bl., Norf., viii., p. 365).

4 (a). Richer de l'Aigle, who joined Robert Curthose taking arms against Henry I., forfeited his estates but which were afterwards returned to him and died seized of them 22 Henry II. (1175-6) and was succeeded by his brother.

He is no doubt the Richard de Aquila who appears in the Red Book to have held 35½ Knight's fees in Sussex 1168-7, and 5½ Knights fees in 1172 in Normandy of the fee of Crepon in Cadomo (id., p. 629, and 644).

4 (b). Gilbert de l'Aigle, who married a sister to William Earl Warren in 1186-7, and returned £21 17s. 6d., for each fee 12s. 6d., and died in Normandy 6 John (1204-5) and was succeeded by (his son?).

5. Gilbert, who forfeited his lands for passing into Normandy without the King's licence.

One of these Gilberts was no doubt the "Gilbert de Aquila," who witnessed the Royal charter to Castle Acre, thus identifying the Norfolk Aguillons, with the de Aquilas.

In 1210-2 the Honor of Aquila was said to be 30½ Knight's fees (Lib. Rub., p. 555).

In 1201-12 it was said to be 35 Knight's fees (id., p. 147).
APPENDIX VIII.

In 19 Henry III. (1234-5) the King granted the Honour of Pevensey, called the "Honour of the Eagle," to Gilbert Mareshall, Earl of Pembroke, and in 25 Henry III. (1240-1) to Peter de Savoy, see Stapleton in his Liber de Antiquis Legibus (Cam. Soc.) xv., under Honour of L'Aigle or Aquila.

In the Testa de Nevill, William Agillun is said to hold a Knight's fee in Pevensey.

So far for the accounts of the de Aquila's and the Honour of L'Aigle hitherto printed.

I think that the connection between the Norfolk Aiguillons and the Hampshire and London families is shown by these facts.

William Aguillon (who was probably closely akin to the Gilbert de l'Aigle (4b) ante, who married a sister of William Earl Warren), in Southampton, and also of Ralph de Cler, and who married Joan, daughter and heiress of Peter, son and heir of Henry Fitz Aylwin, the first Mayor of London, who died 1212 (see Stapleton's, Liber de Antiquis Legibus, pp. ix, etc.), had seizin of his lands in London, Herts, Surrey, and Sussex.

His wife Joan held in Scrothy (Scrathy), in Norfolk of the fief of William de Beaujoy, the Bishop of Thetford.

William Aquila was dead by 1244 (Stapleton, p. xvi), and was succeeded by his son and heir.

Robert Aiguillon who before 1257 married Joan de Mohun one of the daughters of William de Feriers, Earl of Derby.

He was Sheriff of Sussex and Surrey in 1267, and Governor of Guildford Castle (Stapleton, p. lxi). He lived in London next London Stone (id., xxvi), etc., 1269 being then a widower, married Margaret Countess de

Another and apparently inconsistent tale is that told by the Duchess of Montrose (p. 19 and 1), in her Roll of Battle Abbey—mis-indexed under Adgillan, viz:
1123. William de Aiguillon, sire de Trie, defended Pont Audemer against Henry I. (Ordericus Vitalis) and that he was son-in-law of Theobald Paganus de Montmorency Seneschal of Gisols, and died in Palestine—quoting from the Norman People. (I cannot trace this reference or any mention of Aiguillon at all in the Norman People).

She goes on to say that "Rogerus Aculeus, a sub-tenant in the Exon Domesday is believed to be the ancestor of the English house, which first became of note in the reign of Coeur de Lion."

The last statement seems out of the question.
Insula. He was custos of the Castle of Arundel in 1272, etc., and in 1278 held Stapelford manor of the Honour of Mandevill.

He died 1286 holding the manor of Scratby (Norfolk) in capite, and his will is among those proved in the Hustings Wills of London (i., p. 75).

His daughter and heiress, Isabella, married Sir Hugh Bardolf (Stapleton, lxxi).

The Bardolfs were a very well known Norfolk family of Wormegay.

Robert, son of William Aguillion, married Agatha, daughter and co-heiress of Fulk de Beaufoy, of Norfolk (Stapleton, xvii), and had four daughters and co-heiresses alive in 1334.

Agatha, about 1216 founded the Priory of Flitcham in Norfolk, to what Peter de Valoines had granted Appleton (Blomefield, viii., p. 320).

In 1201 Richard Aguillon and his son Robert were witnesses with many well known Norfolk men. This Richard and his wife, and his brother witnessed deeds.

In 1224 Richard Aguillon had the custody of the coast from Lynn and Ereswell (Pat., Cal., p. 606).

In 1225 William de Aquila is described as nephew of Earl Warren (Pat., Cal., p. 498).

In 1284-5 Robert Aguillon held the town of Pershore of Earl Warren (F. Aids, p. 129), Perting was once of the Honour de l’Aigle.

Detailed references bearing out the above will be found in the following notes as to the Aguillons in order of date, in the hope they may save trouble to any one who may hereafter compile a detailed pedigree of the family.

I fear I have in some cases referred twice to the same document.

My new notes are as follows:—

1081. Richer de l’Aigle was witness with Eudo de Rye dapifer to a charter dated at Winchester of land in Normandy (Davis Regesta 140, p.37). He may have been father to the Martyrs patron, but I should think the dates show he was not the patron himself.

1100. Robert d’ Aiguillun and his son witnessed a charter of Stephen, Count of Chartres. The name is given as “Adgellam”—probably a printer’s error.

1173. Godfrey Aguillon about 1173 appears as a witness in the “French Documents,” p. 344.


n.d. Richard Aguillon and Ela de Fervile (Frevile?) his wife, granted to the Prior of Castle Acre, founded by the Warrens.

Among the witnesses to this grant were Robert A. Manasser Aguillon, William A. and Richard, his brother, and William de Warren witnessed the confirmation by Ela (Bl. viii., p. 390).

Before 1194 Manser Aguillon (probably the Manasser just named) is said by the Peerage to be father of William Aguillon, the rebel against John. He is variously said to have died before 1257, and about 1286 was said to be the father of Sir Robert Aguillon, who died 1285, whose daughter and heiress married Hugh Bardolf.

n.d. William Aguillon married Joan, late wife of Ralph Palegrave, who held Scratby (Norfolk), Bl. Norf. xi., p. 246.

In 1201 Richard Aguillon and his son Robert were witnesses with Roger Bigod, Hugh Bardolf, Robert Fitz Roger, Geoffrey de Say, William de Warenne, Hubert de Burgh, and Walter de Wauncy, all well known in connection with Norfolk, as to a settlement of a dispute between the Abbot of Cluny and the Friory of Lewes.

There can be little doubt that Robert the son was the man of that name who with his wife, Agatha de Beaufoy, in 1216 founded the Priory of Flitcham in the beginning of Henry III., 1216 (viii., p. 411) to which Priory Peter de Valoines granted Appleton (id., p. 320).

On the other hand the foundation of Flitcham has been ascribed to Damietta, niece of Emma and Agatha de Beaufoy, and widow of Thos. Avenel about 1257.

1218-9, 3 Henry III. Henry Bataille v. William Aguillon and his wife Joha, in Edinton (Surrey).


In 1224 Richard A. had the custody of the coast from Ereswell to Lynn, in Norfolk. (Pat., p. 606).

1235. Robert de A. owned messuage in Belaugh, (Bl. vi., p. 303-311).

n.d. Grant to F. and C. of H. Trinity London of croft in Edelmerton, subject to a rent of 4d. to Sir. Wm. Aglyn (A., 1721, and see 1239).
1239. Richard, son of Ralph de Elmham, v. Agnes, daughter of Walter de Agullin, in Mettynham and Bungay, Suffolk (Suffolk Fines, 34, Henry III., No. 148, also see in East Harling, Bl. i., p. 318).

n.d., Hugh Aguilun, witness to a release to the daughter and heir of Bordesley, in Warwick, B. 780.
1259. Hugh Agylulium, witness to Warwickshire deed to Monks of Bodesly (?) (Blomfield, No. 780).
1267-8. Robert Aguluns, witness to a King's Charter to London just before Master Godfrey Giffard, then Chancellor.
1269. Robert Aguylon v. William Tracy and Johanna, his wife, of m. of Bures (William de Standon and Thomas de Brambellsete and Joha, his wife, appon. clam.), (Suffolk Fines 55, Henry III., No. 26).
Mundham and Brydham, Sussex (Essex Fines, No. 463).
1270-6. Sir Robert Agullum, witness to grant to Prioress of Catesby, in North Lang (B., 1029).
1274, No. 2. John, son of Thomas de Bassingburn v. Isabella, daughter of Robert Aguylun, of the M.
of Bures (Thomas, son of Hugh Bardolph and Thomas
1279. Hugh Agulun, witness in Warwickshire (A.
8218, A. 8219 and A. 8221), last dated 7 Edward I.
Circa 1281. Sir Geoffrey Agelun, witness to a
grant in Lessington (?), Yorks. (A. 296).
N.d. Land in Lessington which came to "him"
by inheritance from Emma, his late mother, after the
death of Sir Geoffrey Aguillon (A. 327).
1284-5. Robert Aguillun, held Perching, Sussex,
of Earl Warren (F. Aids, p. 129).
1284-5. Robert Aguillun, holds the town of Per-
ting, of Earl Warren, and he of the King (id., p. 129).
This once formed part of the Honour of L’Aigle, and
had passed to H. Bardolf, and this forms a clear proof
of the identity of the two families.
1286, 28th February. Will of Sir Robert Aguilon,
Knight, made in London. His body and his mansion in
parish of St. Swithin, and patronage of Church of St.
Swithin in Candelwyke street to the Priory of Totington.
Afterwards Prior of Tortingtons, Inn, Oxford Place, by
London Stone, except a tenter ground he leaves to the
chapel in his fief of Watton. (Hustings’ Will, ii., p.193).
His daughter and heiress married Hugh Bardolf.
He married Joan, daughter and heiress of Peter,
son and heir of Henry Fitz Aylwin, the first Mayor of
London.
He had held of the Earl Warren in Southampton,
and of Ralph de Clerc, and it was this wealthy match
which brought them into prominence in London.
His son, Robert Aguuln, lived in his ancestors,
Fitz Aylwin’s house, and married Agatha, daughter and
co-heiress of Fulk de Beaufoy, a match which I expect
brought Scratby, in Norfoyl, into the family.
William Aguillon married the daughter and heiress
of Bartholomew de Chenev, who brought him Addington
in Surrey, and had a son William.
1286. William de A., was Sheriff of Sussex, who
died 1286, and had license to crenellate Perching, and
was father of Isabel, who married Hugh Bardolf.
1286-7, 15 Edward I. Ralph de Hingham v. Wm.
Aguilun, in East Bechesworth (Surrey).
1295-6, 29 Edward I. John de Gatwyk v. William
Aiguillum, of Dorking, and his wife Emma, in Mersham,
Surrey (Surrey Fines).
APPENDIX IX.

WEST ACRE PRIORY.

The following notes are intended to show in greater detail than I have done in the text on pp. 18 ante, so much of the history of this Priory as bears on its connection with Thomas a Becket.

It was a Priory of Augustines, just as was Merton in Surrey, where the Martyr was educated, as was Butley, Suffolk, founded by the Glanvills. Broomhill Priory in Norfolk, founded by Hugh de Plaiz and his wife, Philippa, daughter of Richard de Montifichet, was also dedicated to St. Thomas.

It was a cell to the great Priory of Lewes, founded by the Warennes.

The date of its foundation cannot be fixed definitely.

Ralph de Tony, the alleged founder, who was at Hastings, and died 1101, was son of Roger de Tony by Alice, daughter of William Fitz Osbern.

If he was the actual founder this foundation as a Priory of Austin Canons must therefore have been before 1101. He married, Isabel, daughter of Simon de Montifichet*.

His son, another Ralph de Tony, who died before 1125, is also said to have founded the Priory, but what he really did was to give the Manor and Church of Westacre to Oliver and Walter by a charter set out in Dug. Mon., vi., p. 755.

The names of the witnesses to the charter just referred to the Ralph de Tony, who died before 1175, give us some clues to the surroundings of the foundation.

*The possible connection with the owners of Montifichet Castle in London should be noted. It was the parish of Colecheche, which I think was founded by Peter de Colkirk, of Norfolk, and it is near the Hospital, in Cheapside on the site of which the martyr was born, and also near Blanchappleton which belonged to the de Valoin family, whose pedigree set out hereafter (Appendix XI.), contains in my opinion the key to the connection of the martyr with Norfolk.

The fact that the Prior of Westacre owned lands in Appleton (Norfolk) in 1227 and 1233 is also suggestive of the connection with the Valoin family.
They were (1) Gislebert Blundus, (2) William de Portis, (3) Roger Gros, (4) Galterus Capellanus, (5) William de Liva, (6) Peter de Crau, (7) Gafridus de Merlai, and (8) Simon de Holm. The first Gilbert Blundus certainly had some connection with the neighbourhood of Hellesdon, the spot on the history of which so much turns, for in Rot. de Dom., p. 47, Alice de Hemeford (Heinford), is said to hold there from his gift before 1185; (2) may be the Roger de Poitou named in Rot. de Dom. (p. 50); (3) may be the Roger le Gros, who in 1219 was connected in Lincolnshire with Matilda de Havill of the Hellesdon family; (4) is probably the Walter, one of the donors in Ralph de Tony Charter; (5) I should think was a misreading for William de i.ira; a name well known as a writer on Lynn (7) may be Gafridus de Merlai, or Marlow, Rot. de Dom., p. 37.

The first is the most important name as far as this enquiry is concerned. I deal with the family in Appendix X., so at present I will only point out that men of his name were resident in London, close to the birth place of St. Thomas. Soon after, on 1198, a fine was levied by Bartholomew de Runhale, Roger de Repps and Gilbert de Runhall (Eustacius and Matilda, the wife of Roger de Repps, were also grantors) to William, the Prior of West Acre of the advowson of Runhale. (Fines 10 Richard I, No. 242).

It should be remembered that Gundreda, the daughter of William de Warenne (living in 1167), had before 1100 married Roger de Newburgh, Earl of Warwick, and so to William de Bardolf, as shown by the arms still shown on the gateway as representing the founders, the Tonys shows a few pages further on.

What the connection of the Martyrs family with West Acre was must of course remain conjecture.

The story that his father came for trading with Acre in Palestine will not bear investigation, any more than the romantic myth that his mother hunted his father home, possibly in pursuit of what was the mediaeval substitute for a breach of promise of marriage action!

But it must not be overlooked that the place name of Acre in Norfolk was known in history earlier than the Palestine Acre, so the dates are hopelessly inconsistent with the romantic tale.
APPENDIX IX.

Possibly when the martyrdom took place the monks of Acre knowing that he or his father had some sort of connection with their locality seized the opportunity of exploiting St. Thomas as a local asset, just as the Monks of Norwich did with the imaginary martyrdom of St. William the Boy Martyr, but it is more probable that (as I show elsewhere), as the Martyr had local connections with Norfolk in his youth, there may have been an actual connection with West Acre.

If Hubert, the Prior of West Acre "about 1210," could be identified with Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury in 1193, the whole mystery would be solved. It will be remembered that another undoubted connection by marriage Ralph de Glanvill founded Upton Church and Butley Priory in the very year of the martyrdom. Whether as a penance for a share in, or a protest against, the martyrdom remains to be seen. Hubert Walter himself founded the Abbey of West Dereham and there too was an altar to the Saint.

At one time I thought that the connection of West Acre Priory with the Hauteins of Hellesdon was proved by the fact that a Norfolk Fine, 8 Richd. I., No. 49, in which John Hautein was tenant, and Prior and Convent of "Acra," were tenants, by which the latter granted to Hautein, the advowson of Hellesdon and the tithes of the mill there, and land called Rutlingehill in return receiving the Church of St. Mary of Acre, the Priory getting the Church of Herringby.

But apart from the fact that the Church of West Acre was dedicated to St. Thomas, and not to St. Mary, which was the dedication of East Acre, it is clear that the Church of Herringby was long after held by East or Castle Acre Priory.

For the purpose of putting on record all the facts relating to the Priory, which may be of use as clues to those who may hereafter follow up the probable connection of Becket with the Priory, I will now set out all I can find about it before the year 1300.

1195. 7 Richard I, Adam fil Achard v. the Monks of Acre and Alan fil Reiner in Feltwell (p. 1, No. 7).
1196. 8 Richard I, Prior and Monks of St. Mary of Acre (Castle Acre), by fine exchanged with Sir John
Hauteyn, advowson of Hellesdon for advowson in Herringby (Rye's Hellesdon, p. 128).

1206. 8 John, Gena wo. of Adam de Nereford v. Priory and Convent of West Acre. Half all the land which the Prior held of Adam in Westacre No. 331, p. 114.

1208. 10 John, Roger Lord Tony paid 10 marks that the way used to be through the middle of the Priory Court should be, as it was altered, outside the Court.


1227. Richard Cocus and Matilda, his wife v. Richard fil William, whom William, Prior of West Acre calls to warrants in Kent.


1231-6. A Charter with the Abbey suit is in Add. M.S., 4294-23021.

1233. Robert, Prior of Westacre v. Gaeford (? de Lungoyle in Godwick and Wissonsett of advowson of West Acre (Hamo Chevre app.)

1233. Gilbert fitz William v. Richard de la Rokele whom the Prior of Westacre calls to Warrant in Apelton.

1235. In a voluntary taxation the Priory gave 100/3, which was the same as was paid by Bromholm and Oxford (Book of Fees).


Anuger Abbot of Dereham v. Robert, Prior of West Acre, of advowson of St. Andrew of Walton.


1239. Sibilla fil' Galfr' v. Prior of West Acre in Watton.

1246. Robert, Prior of West Acre v. Isabel wo. of Robert de Hel mud in Hulm.

APPENDIX IX.

1286. Richard fil' William de la Rokele v. Herbert, prior of West Acre, of advowson of Apelton.
(14 Edward I) Hubert, Prior of West Acre v. Richard de Brandon and Agnes in South Lynn.

I have compiled a list of the possessions of the Priory, but as it is very long and has no great bearing on the subject of the present enquiry, I will not print it here but will hand it over to Mr. Bradfer Lawrence; also a list of the Priors. The Priors before 1300 were:—

Oliver
1198. William (Fines, 10 Richard I).
1210. Hubert (possibly Hubert Fitz Walter, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury).
1216. Godwin (Dugdale Mon., p. 575).
1227. William (Fines).
1249. Simon
1256. John (MS., register of Blackburn, also 1267 (Fines).
1285-6. Hubert or Herbert (Fines).
1300. Henry (Called Henry Acre, 1300-14).

The later history of the Priory will I understand shortly be dealt with by Mr. Bradfer Lawrence, who is about to issue a detailed description of the past and present Priory. I will confine myself to its record history, of which singularly little is known, considering how important a foundation it was.

It early passed into the family of Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and that it was burnt down in early times, for example has hitherto escaped attention. The most prominent feature left to us now is the present entrance gate, where seems to have been built up on the ruins of a much older building, the stone work of an old pointed arch being built up into it, as can be seen by referring to the back of the arch.

Three armorial shields now unluckily grown over by lichen, etc., which are shown in Cotman's Excursions, and which are given in (Blomefield, ix., p. 164), as

1 and 4 gu a fess between 6 cross crosslets or (Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick).
2 or 3 Checky or and az a chevron erm "Tarquin" (Earl of Warwick). Who Blomefield meant by this I cannot imagine.

Checky or and az, without the chevron on an inescutcheon of pretence Tony.

Elsewhere (ix., p. 93), Blomefield refers to William de Beauchamp, of Terrington, who was killed at the siege of Paris in 1348, and bearing gu, a fess between 6 cross crosslets or. I should not think the present arch as early as this, but the shields may have been re-inserted when the arch was re-built.

It is strange that Kerrich, who lived hard by, does not seem to have made any sketches of the buildings, though he left so many as to Castle Acre and Castle Rising.
APPENDIX X.

THE FAMILY OF BLUNDUS.

I was in hopes that some trace of the connection of St. Thomas with West Acre Priory might have been shown from the fact that the first witness to what is practically the foundation charter of that Priory, was a Gilbert Blundus, whose surname is well known both in Norfolk and in the Jewry at London, and, as I went to considerable trouble in the matter, it may be as well if I print the results here as they may help future enquirers, for though they are not as conclusive as I hope they might have been, they all point to a possible clue.

Gilbert Blundus *the first witness to the grant by Roger de Tony to West Acre, about 1100, has been called “a great man in Essex and Norfolk” and to have come over with the Conqueror and founded Ixworth Priory, which like West Acre was an Augustinian Priory, about 1100.

He may have been the Gilbert Blundus of Bury St. Edmunds who witnessed a grant by the abbot there to Alberic, Count of Guiness (Cotton Charter, XXI), see Round’s Geoffrey de Mandeville, p. 190, and also another grant from the abbot in Loddon in Norfolk (Blomefield X., p. 153). Hamo Blundus was a benefactor to such Abbey. See his will in Dug., Mon. iii., p. 155, in which he mentions his brother, his wife and his chaplain, and in which he is described as one of the richest men in Bury.

In a pedigree printed in Dug. Mon., VI., p. 371, Taylor’s Index Monasticus, p. 97 and Blomefield VI., p. 43, he is said to have married Alice de Colkirk, but in Rot. de Dom., p. 47, it seems he (also?) married Agnes de Gresley and enfeoffed her of Haynford, the next parish to Hellesdon the place which so often occurs in this enquiry.

Whether this Alice, who is said to have been the daughter of Richard de Colkirk, was connected with Peter

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*A Sir Robert Blundus said to be his father is described as baron of Ixworth, and probably his ancestor is said to have held Orford Castle, and to have married Gundreda daughter of Earl Ferrers. Possibly he was the Robert Blundus who farmed Thorpe, by Norwich of the King. Godwin Halden was a sub-tenant (Blomefield vii, p. 258). The simultaneous occurrence of the names of Blundus and Halden is strange, see Appendix XI.
de Colkirk (thought by Blomefield to have been the first builder of London Bridge), is as yet matter of conjecture only.

She is said to have had Hainford of the gift of Gilbert Blundus, and to have had a son Hubert, aged 20 in 1185, then in the custody of the Bishop of Ely.

Besides this Hubert she is said to have had another son, William Blundus, who married Sarah de Montchesny, to have owed £20, two hawks and two gerfalcons in Norfolk and Suffolk, and Henry Blundus accounted for 26/8 for a hawk by Ralph de Hauvill, and a falcon of Edward Blundus in London and Middlesex.

It is within the bounds of possibility that this William Blundus was the same man as William de Hauvill, the King’s falconer in 1169. The various readings of the names of Norman about this period are really kaleidoscopic. More, however, as to the most confusing families of Hauteynes, Hauvilles and of both Norfolk and London, in Appendix XI.

Hubert le Blund, who by Agnes de Insula* had William le Blund, who married Cecilia de Vere and was father of (a), (b), etc.

The connection of the Blunds and the de Valoines (a family which I think provides the key to the whole story of St. Thomas) is a triple one for in 1166 Robert de Valoines held a knights fee of the Honour of St. Edmunds at the same time as William Blundus (Lib. Rub., p. 392).

Some of the family seem to have held in Herts and London.

Robert Blundus, of London, c1157-8, is mentioned in Round’s Geoffrey de Mandeville, p. 229, as a grantee in Sawbridge from Waren Fitz Gerald camerarius Regis.

In 1177 Robert Blundus was of (Blanch) Appleton, London, as to Blanch Appleton, see Appendix XIII. It

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*Could she have been the Agnes de Mandeville and her first husband have been Theobald de Valois? She was 40 in 1185.

(a) William le Blund who married Alice de Capella, but died without issue in 1262 at the battle of Lewes (Inq., p.m. 1264, No. 585, p. 184.) Alice his widow was Ixworth, and killed in the late disturbance (Inq., p.m., 1282 No. 419, p. 239. He gave the Chapel of St. Mary, at Cley, and the Church of All Saints of Cley to Sir William de Valoines (Blomefield VIII, p. 393), possibly on the occasion of his sister’s marriage with Robert de Valoines said to have been son of Sir William de Valoines.

(b) Agnes le Blund married William Criketot (a).

(c) Robesia married Robert de Valoines ut ante.
will be rembered this place belonged to the Valoines.

In 1182-3 Gilbert Blundus was employed to check the restoration of the Castle of Exeter.


On p. 254 he surmises that he was probably the Geoffrey Blundus in 1189, who by Ida de Humfraville had a son, Henry Blundus, who founded a chantry in St. Paul's.

In 1194 the fee of Blundus, of Norwich was in Leventone (Wilts.)

In 1197 Robert Blundus who in 1197 renders an account of the farm of London (Geoffrey de Mandeville p. 234).

In 1211 the fee of Theobald Blund in Cheltenham is mentioned in the Pipe Roll of 13 John (Book of Fees). Theobald it will be remembered was a commonChristian name in the Valoines family.

1216-1272 a Shop. Robert Blundus, a feoffee of a shop in the Goldsmiths quarter, Cheapside, of Ralph Parmenter.

In 1285 Walter le Blundus was Mayor of London (Stow ii., p. 160). Can he have been the same as Walter Hawtoune, Sheriff in 1286 (Stows new edition calls him Hauteyn.

In 1304 John le Blund was Mayor of London (Stow, ii., p. 161).

In 1291 Robert le Blund, inq. 19 Edward I, No. 830, p. 506, of Somerset, dower to his wife Avica, he also held land in Edelmerton.

Considerable confusion arises from the fact that both in Norwich and London there were many Jews of the name of Blundus, and especially from the fact that in 1234 there was an enquiry whether a house in Colchurch, London (the very spot of the Martyr's birth place) of which Aaron Blundus the Jew had been disseized, which he held of Peter f(ü) Alof was in the fee of St. Thomas or not.

It is hardly conceivable that the Blundus who witnessed the grant to West Acre, was himself a Jew, but the coincidence is curious and confusing. Nor is it likely
that the Walter and Robert Blundus just named as Mayors of London in 1285 and 1304, were Jews, unless we suppose they took the names probable of Norman protectors and patrons, as the gipsies are said to have done centuries afterwards.

Another Jewish connection is the fact that Robert Blundus, was a juror in Norwich as to the lands of Seynorettus, the Jew of Norwich, implicated in the Jurnepin case of 1230 (see Norfolk Antiq. Misc., p. 334).

The pedigree of Blundus has yet to be carefully written. I have collected a great deal of material, but do not feel competent to digest it, but it is at the source of anyone who cares to try and do so.*

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*I am bound to point out here that the statement in my first hasty letter to the "Times" that the Gilbert Blundus who witnessed the West Acre charter also witnessed the foundation charted of the Cheapside Hospital of Acon is entirely with foundation, and was no doubt one of my numerous careless blunders of which Dr. Round has often accused me. It is strange he did not notice it this time, I was no doubt confusing it in my mind with the fact that a Gaufrid Blundus held land in the Jewry hard by the Hospital, see ante.
APPENDIX XI.

DE VALOIINES.

The early history of Peter de Valoines, said to be brother of the Conqueror, who married Albreda de Rye, sister of Eudo dapifer is well-known. They founded Binham Abbey in Norfolk in 1093, and their eventual heiress, Gunnora married Robert Fitz Walter, leader of the rebel barons before 1194. How he besieged Binham, and the story of the senior branch, and how it ended in three co-heiresses, of whom Lora was the ancestress of the Balliols, and Isabel of the Comyns, two great Scotch families, need not be gone into here.

The Valoines, with whom I now have to deal, are presumably from Robert de Valoines, who seems to have been brother to Richard, the Abbot of Holm, who witnessed the foundation of Binham.

From yet another brother (?) Walter, I consider came Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Walter, Bishop of Rochester, as set out in Appendix XII.

I suspect a connection between the Valoines and the Halteins of Hellesdon.

In 1140 Theobald Halthein gave land in Hellesdon to Horsham Priory, and Theobald de Belhus was a witness to the grants.

Robert de Valoines (1) was certainly father of Robert (2), who in 1166 held one knight’s fee of the Abbot of St. Edmunds and was probably the Robert de Valoines who gave a marsh in Potter Heigham to the Abbey of St. Benet’s at Holm (Bodl., Charters 605). Before 1167 bought the inheritance of William de Bacton in Bacton by a charter dated at Rouen, which was witnessed by Thomas (Becket) Archbishop of Canterbury, the Martyr, and by Philip de Valoines, and others (see Norris’ M.S., History of Happening Hundred, p. 289 cited from a charter in the possession of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich).

In 1199 he acted in a suit brought by the Countess Gundreda against Robert de Crec for dower due to her from her late husband, Roger de Glanvill (Rot.Cur., Reg., ii., p. 135).
Besides Robert (ii) his father probably had 3 other sons:—

Philip just named;  
Hamo, "nepos Petri," who occurs in Ancient Charters A 8716. He was witness 1197-8 to a grant of Geoffrey de Say in Essex, and to an undated Charter to Campesse, founded by his nephew Theobald in 1195 (C. 2287 Charter Roll, p. 66).

In 1215 he had a grant of Kineskesey in Ireland (Pat. Roll), and in 1230 was a witness with Theobald Walter to a grant by John, Count of Moreton (afterwards King John) to the Archbishop of Dublin.

There is little doubt that he was the Hamo de Valoines who was Justiciary in Ireland in 1196-8, and had grants in Limerick, and who had a son Hamo.

Reverting to Robert (ii) and his family. His children were:—

Theobald de Valoines (of Parham, Suffolk, and Hickling, Norfolk).

In 1166 owned knights fees in Norfolk and Suffolk of the Honour of Bretagne, i.e., lands granted to him on the resumption by the King of the estates of Count of Brittany (Lib. Rub., 480).

In 1178 he also owned 6 knights fee in Lanchashire, and founded Priory of Hickling.

In 1195 he gave land in Campesse (Suffolk) to his sisters Joan and Agnes, who founded an Austin nunnery there before 1210, Joan being the first prioress. If by sister we read sister-in-law, Agnes may have been the Agnes "Becket" who founded the Hospital of Acon in 1199 he was a party to a suit in Yarmouth (Rot. Cur. Reg., ii., p. 80).

In 1201 he was Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk for part of the year.

Before 1201 he gave land in Earlham to Hickling Priory, which in 1203 was confirmed by King John, but there the land said to be in Eaton.

In 1205 said to have given the Church of Parham, in Suffolk, to Hickling Priory.

He is supposed to have died by 1210-2 when his son Thomas succeeded him. This Thomas fil' Theobald (de Valoines) was the man I suspected was the Thomas fil' Theobald de Helles related to the Martyr, and held 7
APPENDIX XI.

Knight's fees of the Honor of Bretagne in Norfolk and Suffolk (Lib. Rub., ii., p. 480).
According to (Blomefield IX., p. 300) his wife was Avia or Avis.
His brothers and sisters were Joan and Agnes, founders of Campesse before 1210.
Hamo* who witnessed a charter to Campesse (though he may be the Hamo, son of Hamo of Ireland.
Alan, who in 1189 witnessed a grant from the King to Henry de Cornhill of London, the other witnesses being John Marshall and his brother William.
Robert of London, who owned the soke of Blanchepleton in London in 1177, when he confirmed the grant by David de Cornhill to the Priory of the Holy Trinity of London.
Another possible brother was Richard de Valoines, who in 1248 granted land in Herts to Richard, Prior of the Holy Trinity, London, which was granted back to him, and Airoda, his wife (Ancient Deeds, A 5257 and 5269).
Richard who witnessed a grant to the same Priory.
The children and grandchildren of Theobald the founder of Hickling were:
Thomas de Valoines, who in 1210-12 succeeded to the 7 knights fees in Norfolk and Suffolk held of the Honour of Bretagn in Norfolk and Suffolk (Lib. Rub., ii., p. 480).
He joined the rebellious barons in 1217.
In 1220 he was party to a fine with his aunt, Johanna, prioress of Campesse in Parham (Suffolk), Earl Roger le Bigot, and Gilbert de Coleville app. clia.)
He has been said by to have d.s.p. but I suspect that he had a brother, Theobald, Archdeacon of Essex 1218-20, and possibly Prebend of St. Paul's (Dugdale's St. Pauls, p. 237-261). Frebend of Caddington Major (St. Pauls), and of Portpot, and who is said to have been a Justice Itinerant.
Thomas the rebel left 2 sisters and heiresses, Bertha and Matilda, who married Ralph de Glanville, and Matilda married Hervey Walter, and I expect another Christine who before 1210 was Abbess of Barking, of which Abbey

*There was a later Hamo who was on a Commission for Gaol del. in 1281, and who was in debt to a Norwich Jew in 1289.
Another of the name witnessed a grant in London (?) (A. 1804).
In connection with the Norwich Jews I will note that William, son of John de Valoines had been in debt to one in 1269.
Mary, sister of Thomas a Becket, had been Abbess in 1179.

There was another branch which succeeded to the Hickling property and which as showing another important connection with the le Blund family I will show by a separate pedigree thus.

They possibly descended from a brother of Thomas, the rebel of 1217.

If the Thomas fil’ Theobald de Helles, who married the martyr’s sister, was not a Valoins or a Fitz Walter the coincidences are most extraordinary.

He is said to have taken his name from Helles in Kilkenny, in Ireland, and have been ancestor of the Butler family.

The latter family certainly had grants in Ireland in 1194, and they were certainly descended from Hubert Fitz Walter (who died 1205), the son of Maud de Valoins, who married Hervey Walter, and whose sister’s husband Ralph de Glanville, founded Butley Abbey and Upton Church, in which were remembrances of the martyr, in the year after the martyr’s death.

I have made very large collection for a history of the various families of de Valoins. They are too voluminous to print here, but they are at the service of any one who would like to undertake the task of compiling a comprehensive pedigrees of the family.

There is much in this material which tends to show a connection between the Valoins and St. Thomas, e.g., a Valoins family owned the rectory of St. Gregory of Norwich. In it there was a chapel on the South side of the chancel dedicated to St. Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, and an altar to St. Thomas.

The advowson was in 1210 granted by John Fitz Bernard, who seems to have been descended from Sibilla de Valoins, the daughter of a Philip de Valoins, who is also said to have married de Stutevill.

St. Gregory is on the banks of the river just below Hellesdon, so often mentioned in these pages, and abuts on “Hell Gate,” which I apprehend means the way to Hell (esdon).

A Robert de Valoins owned the soke of Blanchappleton in London, immediately adjoining the Martyr’s birthplace, and had to do with the family of de Cornhill, who also lived hard by.
The explanation of the whole mystery may be that the compilers of the Osmond pedigree may have stumbled across the facts which I have set out, and invented the tale that this Thomas fil' Theobald de Helles, who married Becket's sister, had grants in Ireland being misled by an apparent similarity of Helles and Heles, whereas the real grantee was a Theobald de Valoins or a Theobald Fitz Walter, from whom the Butler may have had a genuine descent, and who certainly had such grants. The compiler may have been as wrong in the assumption as I seem to have been in suggesting the identity of Thomas fil' Theobald de Helles with Thomas fil' Theobald de Hellesdon, if there ever was such a person.
APPENDIX XII.

THE FAMILIES OF HALDEN, HAUTEIN, AND HAUVELL OF HELLESDON.

I will here summarize what I have been able to find out about these families, as it was my suggestion that a Thomas fil Theobald de Hellesdon was identical with Thomas fil Theobald de Helles, who married the martyr’s sister, which brought down on my head the special wrath of Dr. Round in his anticipatory Review he issued of this present book before it was written.

The whole subject bristles with difficulties, but I will now set out (I hope fairly) all the facts I can get together about both families and the village of Hellesdon itself.

Domesday was compiled in 1085-6 (Ellis i, p. 13), and states that both Hellesdon and Oxnead were then held by Godwyn Haldein. The former place had been held in the time of King Edward by the Saxon Archbishop Stigand, who was deprived and died in 1070. Godwin also held Bernham in Forehoe Hundred, a fact which brings another probable surname into the question.

Dr. Round seeks to identify the name of Haldein of Domesday with the later French name of de Hauteyn, but there is much to be said against this.

The former is essentially a Scandinavian name and appears in various forms in D.D.B., as holding in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cheshire, Notts., Yorks. and Berks.


Halden we have just seen was a “liber homo,” and it is hard to believe that a man of Norman descent would be so described. This seems to me to absolutely destroy Dr. Round’s offensive criticism in the Times Literary Supplement, which is wholly based on his assumption of the identity of the two names.*

*The Pipe Roll of 26 Hy. III. (1241-2) shows the name occurring in Yorkshire. It seems to have dropped out of Norfolk at a very early time. In London it appears in 1375, when Wm. Haldene was alderman of Colman Street, and later of Cheap.

Lord Haldane’s political predatory method may therefore be hereditary.
The name of Hauteyn, moreover, not only sounds French, but appears on the forms of Hauney, Hautein, and Hautein in three of the issues of the Rolls of Battle Abbey, given in Burke’s edition of 1848, and it is curious to note that in the two rhyming rolls Hauteville et Hautein and Hauteyn and Hauville are linked together.

Whether it comes from a place name or from a nickname derived from the “haughtiness” of a former holder, is a matter for conjecture.

In 1281 Sir Hamo Hauteyn, the justice, is called le Hauteyn (Rolls Cal., p. 253), which seems to favour the nickname derivation.

Stapleton in his Rot. de Antiq. Legibus, indexes a statement as to one Thomas de Hautentot, but unluckily the references he gives (lxxx) is incorrect, for the name does not occur on that page, which seems to relate to document dated 1292.

The last edition of the Roll of Battle Abbey (by the Duchess of Cleveland) says of Hawton and Hawtin that the name also occurs in Normandy, but I am bound to say I cannot trace it there.

It must be admitted that Dr. Round is right in saying that the name is usually spelt Hautein tout court, and not de Hautein, but this is not always so, for in 1205 the Rot. Fine refers to Robert de Hauteyn giving 20 marks for having his land in Hellesdon which H(ubert) Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury (died 1205), had formerly held, and Theobald de H. was his security.

This entry is useful as showing that some land at all events in Hellesdon came to him from Hubert Fitz Walter, the Archbishop, whose wife’s mother Maud was daughter of Theobald de Valoines and whose brother was Theobald Butler, and establishes a link of the de Valoines with Hellesdon.

Apart from the improbability of the identity of the two names, the presumption drawn from the records is that they were not so.

The facts as to the Hauteyn holding in Hellesdon may be thus summarized. If my notes are lengthy they may prove useful hereafter. They held under the Earls
of Clare, who were sub-tenants of Geoffrey, Earl of March.

1154-80. Theobald de Hauteyn had a lordship here by the marriage of Agnes, daughter of Albert de Gresley, who was also lord of Oxnead. Agnes was 50 in 1185. Her first husband was Hauteyn, the second husband de Amaunderville.

Theobald Hauteyn granted to the abbey of Horsham St. Faith’s eight acres in Horsham, in addition to twelve which his father Walter had given them.

1160-1164. Walter Haltern, occurs on the Pipe Roll.

1161. Theobald de Hauteyn in 1161 held 2 k. f. of the Honour of Clare.

1161. Walter Hauteyn, of Haylesdon, was living, and is said by Norris to have married Agnes de Amundevile, and to have been the father of Theobald, and had an interest here, holding two fees of the honour of Clare, and John was (as is said) his son and heir, who married Maigery, daughter of Julian Hunsien (‘Humphyn, Norris’ Flegg, p. 81), son of Elias, who brought to John certain lordships in Lincoln.

1160. Theobald Hauteyn held 2 Knights fees of the Honour of Clare, and is said to have been father of three sons. John who d.s.p., but in 1185 he is said to have three sons, John, Robert and Thomas. The “Thomas fil’ Theobald,” would fit in with the Thomas fil’ Theobald de Helles, who married Agnes Becket.


1183. On the death of Theobald his widow Agnes married de Amaundevile. She was found by inquisition to be 50 years of age, and to hold this manor in dower, having three sons by Theobald, as mentioned under 1160.

1185. Agnes de Maundevill widow of Theobald Hauteyn (née Gresle) was in the Rot. de Dom. returned as holding Hellesdon as of the fee of Humphrey de Buhun, and to have then been 50 and had 3 sons by Theobald, John the eldest being 15 and in the King’s custody (Blomesfield, vi., p. 477), John, Robert and Thomas.

1185. Hellesdon was held by Humphrey de Bohun.

The Bohun Carta of 1166 contains no Hautein, but it’s opening entry of Walter de Hayntone as holding 2 knight’s fee of his may be an error for Walter Hautein.
who appears in the Clare Charter, and that Walter Haltern appears in the Pipe Roll of 1161.

1189-90. Blomefield (x., p. 425) states that in 1189-90 William de Bernham was lord of this town, and of Oxnead, Bernham, etc. (Bernham Broom, ii., p. 377.)

Foss (p. 332) thinks the Hauetyns took their name from the manor of Hauetyns in Bernham Broom, but I should think the reverse was the case.


1196. John Hauteyn, lord of Herringby (see xi., p. 221), benefactor in 1196 to Castle Acre, founded by the Warrens, had advowson of Hellesdon from Priory and Convent of Acre in exchange for advowson of Herringby. This Acre was Castle Acre, not West Acre.

N.B. Roger de Toney, Hubert de Montechesni, Sir Ralph de Beaufey, Roger de Cressy were also benefactors of Castle Acre.


1198. p. 9. Theobald Hauetin as to land which Agnes de Amundevil, mother of Theobald, held from Hugh (?) at, 1/6th of a knight's fee, also a knight's fee in Scredlington (Lincoln), also releases a serf in 1234 (p. 259).

1205. (7 John) Divers Coy Fines Lincolnshire and Norfolk. Margery widow of John Hauteyn v. Robert Hauteyn, as to 12 carucates land and services of the lords mill, Skerlenten, and 6 bovates, which Agnes de Amundevill held in Skeldingthorpe, which by a fine in the reign of Henry II. She released 1/2 in Oxneth, 1/6 as a dower, saving to Margery her land in Heylesdon.

1214. A fine between same parties (Linc., p. 115), Margery claims the right to have land on the death of Agnes de Amundevill by a fine made in reign of Henry II.

1204. Blomefield (ix., p. 213) refers to a Richard de (le (?) Germain, of Berney, a small benefactor of Binham Abbey in 6 John, 1204-5, who may have been the ancestor of this Richard. "Germain" may be from Wiggenhall St. Germain.

1205. Rot. de Finibus 7th John p. 311. Robert de Hauteyn gives 20 marks for having his land in Hailesdon with appurts, which H, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury, had pledge was Theobald de Hauetyn.
1213. (15 John). Lincoln. Robert Hautein, son of John Hautein was attached in suit between Agnes de Amundeville (whose heir he is) v. Jocellanus de Amundeville, father of Margery de Amundeville, as to . . . town of Skredlinton and Skeldingthorp, Lincs., which Jocellanus de Mundeville gave to John Hautein in marriage, with Margery, his daughter, which a William de Amundeville, uncle of said Jocellanus, gave to said Agnes in dower.

1214 (p. 115) Margery, Wo. of Jno. Hauten to Robert Hauten, releases, in Skerlinton, in Lincs. and Skeldingthorp. Agnes de Amundeville mentioned.

1214. Sir Robert de Hautein in this year granted by fine to William Lincoln, lands and a meadow called Flat-holm, with common of pasture for eight sheep and six beasts in the woods, except in the park of the said Robert.

1214. Margery, widow, of John, surrendered her dower here to Robert de Hautein.

1221-8. Grant from Thomas, son of Theobald de Helles, to the Master of the Brother of the Hospital of Knights of St. Thomas, the martyr of Canterbury, of a parcel of land in the parish of St. Mary de Colecherche, formerly belonging to Gilbert Beket, father of the blessed Thomas, the Martyr, Archbishop of Canterbury. This is the London deed which is the subject of discussion.


1227. Sir Robert Hauteyn granted to Reginald, Abbot of St. Benet’s-at-Holm, the mill called New Mill in Haylesdon Liberty, with common of pasture, and the bank to the mill-pool with the island, and liberty to clean the pool, x., p. 429.

The Abbot seems to have considered this gave him some fishing right.


1234-4 18 Henry III., N. 401. Cecilia fil’ Herbert v. Robert de Hauteyn whom John de Marston to calls to warrant in Hellesdon.

1235. Walter de Bernham held the manor of the honour of Clare.
APPENDIX XII.


In 1239-40 Hauteyn granted to William fil’ Gerberc certain fishing right in Hellesdon, the Abbot intervened and put in his claim (Fine, 24 Henry III., No. 771).

1239 24. Henry III. William, son of Roger de Herringby quit claims of the advowson to Prior.

Hauteyn, Robert, 1239, Hellesdon, F. of F. 64.

Hauteyn, Robert, 1239, Hellesdon, F. of F. 66.


1242. He settled this lordship on Hamo, his son, and Margaret, his wife, daughter of William Brito, and died in 1244, Alice being then his widow. He had a daughter Eva, to whom he gave £100 per annum in lands here, pasture at Kaynard, a foldcourse for 500 sheep, and several rents (which was probably the rise of Fairchild’s manor in this town) on her marriage to Ralph de Tyville.

And in 1243 Robert Hauteyn granted a right of fishery in the waters of Hellesdon and Heigham to the Abbot (Fines, 27 Henry III., No. 870).

The Abbot of St. Benet’s at Holme had a grant from Robert Hauteyn of the New Mill in Hellesdon Liberty (see ante).

1244. Robert Hauteyn deforciant of 20 liberates in Hellesdon which William Brito has had extended to use of Hamo, son of said Robert and Margery u in exchange for mill there in settlement of the land and land in Scholdingthopr, Lincoln (Linc. Fines, p. 360).


1250. Hamo Hauteyn, F of F. 83.


1258. The Priory of Llantory had a grant in Hellesdon in 1258-9 with the advowson of St. Augustine’s, Norwich, from Richard de Norwich (Fines, 43 Henry III., No. 1401).

1259. Hamundus Hauteyn was Sheriff of Lincoln, (44 Henry III., p. 15a.)
1260. Hamo succeeded his father, was custos of the county of Norfolk, and accounted for the profits thereof, and in his 53rd year had the King’s writ, dated December 3rd, that whereas he had forfeited his lands, which were given to Patrick de Chaworth for aiding with the barons, he was empowered to summon Patrick before the Sheriff, to show cause why they should not be restored to him.

Sir Bartholomew de Hauteyn brother of Hamo (see Misc., Inq., 1219-1301, p. 251), also had an interest here about this time and the King had granted his lands on the same account to Erinisius de Stuteville.

Sir Hamo de Hauteyn and Robert de Ludham were appointed justices to look after the Jews affairs and there was a mandate to the barons of the Exchequer, to deliver to them the keys of the chest of the Jews, with the rolls, etc., belonging to that office.

1260-1. Stephen le Wympler was lord in town of Pampesworth, and had Alice, his wife, Johanna, his daughter, and another daughter Alice, wife of Robert Hauteyn, p. 9.

In 1264 William de Bernham had a charter for free-warren in Hellesdon, and in 1275 claimed the same and right of gallows.

1274. 3 Edward I. Hamo Hauteyn, held the manor of Hellesdon in capite.


1283. He was summoned to meet the king in parliament at Salop, and in

1285. (Foss says Trin. Term 1296) was suspended from his office as judge of the Jews, for certain misdemeanours.

1286. Walter Hauteyn or Hawton, Mayor of London next after Walter le Blund, Mayor in 1285, Stow, p. 160.

1287. Sir Barthow. Hauteyn and Alice his wife buy in St. Martin Coslany, Norwich (p. 15). (Barthow was brother of Hamon, see 1300.)

1290-1. Walter de Bernham and Matilda, his wife v. William Hautyn, of the manor of Hellesdon. Margery, the wife of Hamo Hauteyn, mentioned as holding the land there, which he had ex dimissione Robert Hauteyn (Fines Edward I., No. 594).
Hamo Hauteyn (Inq., Edward I, No. 797, p. 485). Cambridge as to grant by Hauteyn to William de Chaddworth, and to Walter de Styrhesle sometimes her husband in Brunne.

William son and heir of Hamo is mentioned.

1299. William Hauteyn occurs in St. Simons and Jude, Norwich, p. 73.

1300. Sir Hamon Hauteyn and his brother Bartholomew had been against the King (Misc. Inq., 1219-1307, vol. i., p. 251, No. 829).

Sir Hamon held lands in Heylesdon worth £11 22½d. Bartholomew held 100 acres in Heylesdon (p. 510).

William Hauteyn held two knight’s fees in Oxenedish and Heylesdon.


1302. William Hauteyn of Oxnead deceased as to St. Botulf, p. 91.

1302. William Hauteyn holds 2 knights fees in Oxenedish and Heylesdon of Humphrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford (Chancery, Inq., p.m., No. 1870, file 61 (1)).


1303. Philip Hauteyn, pepperer, and his mother, Juliana, in St. Benet’s, Norwich—she was the wife of Thomas Romyn (Norwich Deeds).

1304. Stephen Hauteyn.

1307. William Hauteyn, 1 Edward II., was a witness in Gunton, p. 84.


1317 William Hauteyn and Alice u, William de Walcote in Oxnead (F. of F. Norfolk, p. 252, No. 650).


1324. William Hauteyn and Alice, his wife, have a grant of a messuage, in Oxnead, for Henry de Mundham, the parson there (P. L., i., p. 5).

1327. John, son of William Hauteyn, and Alice and Henry de Colby, manor of Oxnead.

This is all I can find about the Hauteyns of Norfolk, till we come to the John Hauteyne, the Friar, who was such a thorn in the flesh of the Pastons with his claim to-
the manor of Oxnead. Of him the Paston letters tell these facts:

He was sometimes called Alburgh or Hauteyn, and may have been connected with the Margaret Alburgh mentioned in iii., p. 416, who was the eighteen-year-old daughter of a Mr. Alborn, of Bow Churchyard, suggested in 1479 as a wife for John Paston (iii., p. 241).

The deposition as to the John Hawteyn, the Friar, is set out on pp. 45 etc., of vol. i. And he was born at Swaffham Market in a place called Delgat, when his parents entered for an annual stipend given to Thomas Delgat.

His parents were Hamond Hauteyn and Claricia, his wife. When he was 12 he was sent to London and apprenticed to a Thomas Brown.

One John Hawteyn vel Alburgh, uncle of said John Hawteyn.

The friar moved from Skerrington to Swaffham the year that Thomas Erpingham took Richard II, to the Tower (1399).

His mother, Claricia, when a widow, lived in Aylsham, and married, secondly, Peter Fyth, and thirdly, William Punyant, of Aylsham.

A Tiphania Hawteyn lived in London.

In 1449 John Hawteyn, the Friar, petitioned the Archbishop of Canterbury, and referred to his action against Anneys wife of W. Paston, as to the Manor of Oxnead. In 1449 he was still worrying the Pastons.

So much for the Hauteyns and their alleged identity with the Haldens (Round’s King’s Sergeants, p. 310). I will now come to the Hautvills.

Robert Altus or le Hau is said to hold land in Earlham, the next parish to Hellesdon, and to have been father to

Ralph de Hautvill, the King’s falconer, who in 1163 bought hawks for the King (Round, p. 310). I would suggest that it is not impossible that he may have been the same as Roger de Mandevill. Roger, falconarius, who 8 years before had been doing the same (Pipe Roll). That two people named Mandevill or Amundevill appear on the Hauteyn pedigree is some support to this guess.
Before 1186 Humfrey de Hauville changed his name to Humfrey de Earlam, and went on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, selling his estate to his brother Ralph de Hauville. Humfrey’s daughter, Muriel, married Jurnetus, a rich Jew of Norwich, and her lands were escheated for doing so.

This change of name is also shown by entries on the Rot. Cur. Regis, pp 180 and 245, which show the identity Ralph de Earlam with Ralph de Hauvill.

Others of the name were at Dunton, in Brothercross Hundred, while they held falconry service, and this gave yet another new surname to the family.

In 1286 Walter de Hautvill was a London contemporary with, and probably identical with the Walter de Bernham, the petent against William de Hauteyn as to the manor of Hellesdon.

Dr. Round gives an exhaustive account of those Hautvills in his King’s Sergeants.

Let us now shortly set out the admitted facts about Hellesdon itself.

It is a small village near Norwich, only comprising 1182 acres and never had any great trade except tanning. Its situation on a wide marshy river probably made it convenient for hawking. Anyhow the Hauvilles who lived there were the King’s hereditary falconers.

They were sometimes called de Earlham, sometimes de Hauteyn, and sometimes de Hellesdon.

Hellesdon was convenient of access to the great Royal Park, which spread north from Blickling (once the park of Harold), and Cawston, where King Stephen is said to have frequented (where the family of May held land on hunting service), and Burgh by Aylsham, the Royal Hunting Box of the Plantagenets, whence Hubert de Burgh took his name, and where a family of Perers once lived, which may have produced Alice Perers.

Before 1319 the King’s “Mews” in London were founded at Charring, near Westminster (see Patent Roll), and it is noticeable that Chaucer was clerk of the Mews at Charing (Old and New London). Whether the London Hauviles and Hauteins whose names I give on p. 88 had anything to do with these Mews has yet to be shown.
That the Walter le Blund who was Mayor of London in 1285, was the same man as Walter Hauteyn or Hauten who was Mayor in 1286, seem very probable.

Then William Blundus who bought the lands in 1164 may well be the William de Hauvill, who in 1169, and the William de Gernesnue who also held in.

In London we find Peter Blundus, Constable of the Tower in 1249 (Lib. de Antiq. Legibus, p. 17).

To those who have not made the names of the Normans in England a special study, it will seem strange that I should put forward as probable that so many different surnames were born by one family, but I will give my reasons for thinking so.

The family first known as Haldein were the owners of Hellesdon. We find they also held in Burnham, a sea coast place.

Then we find the Hauvilles here.
Then le Gros.
Then de Burnham.

Then le Blundus. Theobald Blundus was servant to King John in 1216 (Close Roll, i., p. 252). He was possibly Theobald Seneschellus, and possibly Theobald de Valoines.

It will not be denied that people of the names of Hauteyn, Hauvile, Le Blund and Burnham, Berney and Hellesdon were intimately connected with the Norfolk village of Hellesdon, and in the preceding pages I have set out all I can find about them.

I will now give separately details of all persons of these names who appear in the early history of London some of whom lived in the immediate neighbourhood of Becket’s birthplace there, and leave my readers to form their own conclusions as to whether the facts I put forward do not bear out my views as to the martyrs connection with the county of Norfolk, and that several of these names were really only one family.

1249 (?) Peter Blundus was Constable of the Tower of London (Lib. de Antiq. Legibus, p. 17).

1260. Alice, wife of Robert Hauteyn, daughter of Stephen le Wympler of London, and Panxworth, Norfolk (Hustings Wills, i, pp. 8-9).
1269    p. 120, Henry de Hauvile ejected from the City of London with Adam de Ysemongere Lane, and many others (Lib. de Antiq. Legibus, p. 120).


1271.    Robert Hauteyn was one of those elected by Walter Hervye (Stapleton's Lib. de Ant. Leg, Cam. Soc).


1285.    Walter le Blunt, of London.

1286.    Walter Hawtone said to be Sheriff of London, the year before Walter le Blunt (Stow ii, p. 160), called Walter Hauteyn in A 1625 and A 1708.

Walter Hauteyn, Sheriff of London with Thomas Gros (n.d. Lib. de Ant. 258, but neither named in Stow, who apparently read the surname Hawtone).

1286 and 1292 Walter Hawton or Hauteyn, Sheriff of London in those years (Stow ii, p. 160, and see Ancient Deeds A 1708 and 621).

1286.    Walter de Hautevill held in London, and had a house next that of the Abbot of Colchester. His mother was Alice de Sithington and his daughter was Alice (Hustings Wills, i, p. 121). He may have been the

1290-1    Walter de Bernham and Matilda his wife v. William Hauteyn of the manor of Hellesdon. (Margery, wife of Hamo Hauteyn, mentioned which she held ex dimissione Roberti Hauteyn). (Fines Edward I, No. 594.)

1292.    Walter Hauteyn, his wife Alice, a nun of St. Sepulchre, Canterbury, his house in Cornhill, his daughters Beatrice, Johanne and Eleanora, his son Thomas's house in Colman Street (Hustings Wills, p. 108).


Ralph le John le, Citizen and alderman of London, and grant property in London, near the Guildhall, once of Adam, son of Vives.

1297.    Juliana, daughter of Adam le Otmonger, to her sister Beatrinx, wife of Henry Hauteyn 1/3 of ho. in "la Chang" (Hustings Wills of London, p. 132).
1303-4. Will of Philip Hauteyn, pepperer, left to Juliana, his mother, his house in Benedict Sherehog; Juliana Hauteyn, wife of Thomas Romeyn, an executor (Hustings Wills, i, p. 161).

1304. Will of Stephen Hauteyn, mercer (id., p. 167).

1304 (or 1359). Nicholas Hauteyn, mercer, Sheriff of London (Lib. de Antq. Legibus, p. 250).

1309. John Hauteyn King's yeoman obtained grant from King to Gregory de Castello of free warren in Ravingham, etc. (Charter Rolls, p. 130).

1316. John Hauteyn claims against will of Christiana Evre, as she only had a life interest under test. of John de Evre, with remainder to himself (Hustings Wills, London, i., p. 263).

1316-7. Beatrix Hauteyn leaves to William the Tailor and Kath. and Alice her daughter rents in the Old Change (id, p. 270-1).


1338. Will of Thomas Hauteyn, pepperer. Johanna, his wife, a tenement in Benet Sherehog, London. Thomas, his son, and Cristine, his wife, daughter of Thomas Pintel (Hustings Wills, i., p. 429).

1349. Will of Robert Hauteyn of London, to be buried at Northampton. Thomas Hauteyn puts in his claim (Hustings Wills, i, p. 606).

1359. (1304) Nicholas Hauteyn, mercer, Sheriff of London. (Lib. de Antq. Leg., p. 250).

1360. Walter de Berney bought manor and advowson, of Hellesdon in 1362, Sheriff of London 1360 (Stow, ii., p. 167). Mayor of London, 1369, when his fine was paid for him by John de Hellesdon.


1362-3. Sir Giles de Bernham and Robert his son realesed to Walter de Berney, citizen of Norwich, the manor and advowson of Hellesdon, and in the said year John de Bernham, brother and heir of Sir Giles, released to the aforesaid Walter, and to Richard de Harlesdon, and John his son, citizens of London, all his


1389. William of Walter de Berney to be buried in Cathedral in Norwich, legacies to Priories of Wymondham, Brinton, Westacre and Coford and Church of St. Thomas de Acon, Church of Runhale, Hellesdon, and Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and to John de Heylesdon (Hustings Wills, ii., p. 205).

1382-4. John de Heylesdon, citizen of London and Johanna his wife v. John Chirchman and others of manor of Heylesdon, and land in ditto etc., and advowson of Hellesdon. (6 and 7 Richard II, No. 101.)

1384. John de Haylesdon, citizen of Norwich, made his will and desires to be buried in Hellesdon Church by his father and mother; gives to Robert, his brother, 40s., Margaret, his sister, 20s., and proved in the same month. He mentions his wife Joan and daughter Alice.

John Churchman was his executor, and to this John, John de Haylesdon and Joan his wife, had conveyed this manor in trust. (Hustings Wills, ii, p. 209).

I will now ask my readers to say whether it is not absurd for Dr. Round to suggest that the above were only coincidences of the Monmouth and Macedon type. The coincidences are too many, and point to a migration from Hellesdon of people who grew to be important in London, and kept up their connection with the Norfolk village.

The whole question is a curious one. It might even be guessed that the old name of Hauteyn apparently sometimes corrected into Hauton may have been turned into Hautville just as the adjoining village of Hobbys has been turned into Hautbois.

It will be remembered that Blomefield thought that the Berneys, were identical with the de Valoynes. He (IX, p. 213) also suggest that Richard de (le ?) Germain, a small benefactor to Binham Abbey in 1204, might be ancestor of one Richard de Berney said to have married Catherine daughter of Roger Gney, of Dilham.

By the Index to the Victoria County History of Essex, under Domesday it seems there was also a Halesduna in Essex (pp. 393-393n, 394 and 498n), the
Editor says this "name is now lost," but may it not have been a beruie to the Norfolk manor?
The Essex manor was apparently among the lands of Hugh de Montfort in the Hundred of Dingey.
APPENDIX XIII.

UNFAIR CRITICISM.

I had intended to have reprinted here some of the privately printed pamphlet which I issued in 1922, in reply to a bitter and uncalled for attack made on me by Dr. J. Horace Round, in the "English Historical Review," as to the authenticity of the "Colchester Chronicle," and other matters, and to point out that such attack was admissibly a personal one against me, because I had protested against his violent and offensive attacks on other writers.

However, as I have, in such pamphlet, fully replied to such attack and exposed his motives for making it, and as he has not even attempted to answer me, I am advised by my friends not to re-open the dispute, at all events till he thinks fit to answer my pamphlet.

Yet, though he failed to answer me, he did not think it beneath his dignity, directly I announced my intention to write this book to go out of his way again in the columns of the Times Literary Supplement, of 26th April, 1923, to attack it in the most offensive way.

When he reviews this book, now that it is written, I will ask him to read pp. 82, etc., which seems to me to utterly destroy his argument as to his alleged identity of the names of Haldein and Hauteyn, which was the main ground of his renewed attack on me. If he has anything to say to rebut my arguments, let him do so in a decent and scholarly way, and remember that abuse is not argument, and that pointing out my innumerable misprints, and slips on minor matters, does not answer main and important points I claim to have made.

Perhaps he will be able to explain away the facts I give, which, I think, show that there was a migration of families from a tiny village in Norfolk to London, and that such migrants were specially interested in both places, and in St. Thomas.

WALTER RYE.
ST. THOMAS A BECKET

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